STARTLING 'N SHOCKING tales

# WEIRD

K47965

MAR 1980

$1.95

A madman reaches into the unknown and unleashes a reign of terror in the

## BLOODY THING

A gruesome shocker

## CHOP THEIR HEADS OFF

Unbelievable horror explodes in

## HORROR IN WOOD

## THE GHOUL

PLUS

- THE MONSTER
- MUD CREATURES
- SEAT of DOOM

03
0 71896 47965

# WEIRD

MARCH 1980 VOL. 13 NO. 2

## CONTENTS

**THE BLOODY THING** ..... 4
Unbelievable horror explodes when a painting comes to life and leaves a wake of bloodless corpses in its wake.

**SEAT OF DOOM** ..... 8
A gruesome shocker that leaves a murky gloom that coats the death-house with agonizing terror.

**THE MUD CREATURES** ..... 12
A fabulous treasure guarded by a quicksand monster turns into a sand-choking nightmare for an avaricious adventurer.

**THE CONJURER** ..... 17
A madman reaches into the unknown and unleashes a reign of terror from evil beings.

**THE GHOUL** ..... 27
A loathsome fanged creature and a fame-hungry scientist are trapped by their greed in a lonely cemetary.

**THE MONSTER** ..... 33
The horror of a thing with an educated brain that rides the bottom of the ocean with a surge of diabolical savagery.

**CHOP OFF THEIR HEADS** ..... 40
A ghastly tale of a haunted castle that Morley inherited along with a black robed executioner who lived eons ago.

**DEADMANS HAND** ..... 47
The gruesome shock of poker playing men who fall prey to the odious corpse who picks up the "deadman's hand."

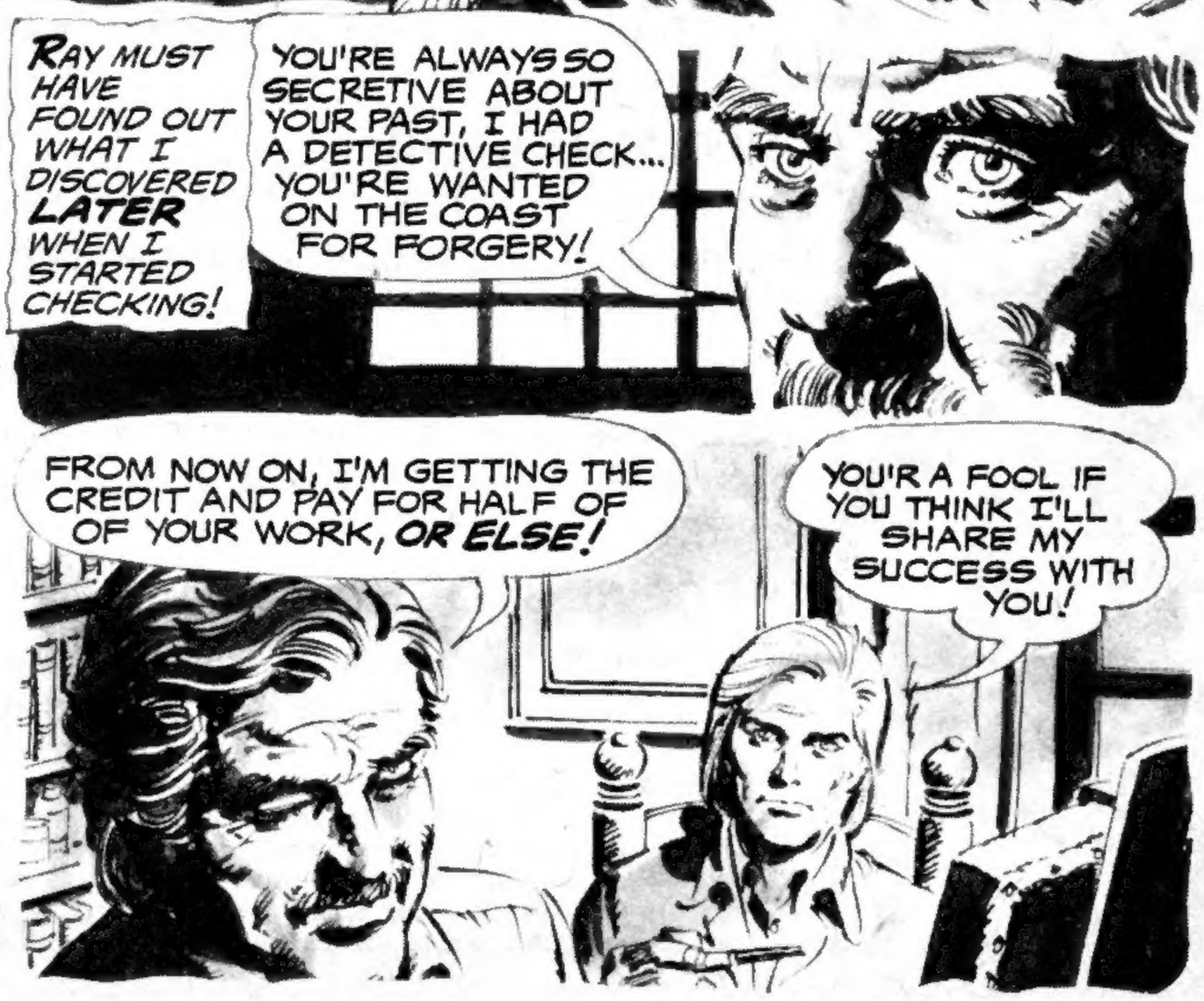
**HORROR IN WOOD** ..... 53
A strange and devilish tale of fear and horror that dwells in the mind of something made out of wood.

**THE DEVIL'S LOOKING GLASS** ..... 60
A two-bit peddler becomes the pawn of a satanic monster and is doomed to an incredible life.

**WEIRD** is published quarterly by Eerie Publications, Inc., 79 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016. The publisher assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material. Any resemblance to persons living or dead is purely coincidental. All rights reserved. Copyright © 1979 under Universal Copyright Conventions. Single copy price: $1.95. Application to mail at second class rate is pending at new York, New York. Printed in U.S.A.

I'M JOHNSON... AN EDITOR! AFTER THE INCREDIBLE DISAPPEARANCE OF STEVE TARN, OUR BEST ARTIST, I GOT CURIOUS AND DID A LITTLE RESEARCH! THE CONCLUSION I CAME TO MADE MY SKIN CRAWL WITH UNBLIEVING TERROR!

# The BLOODY THING



STEVE'S FINGERPRINTS ON THE KNIFE PROVED THAT HE KILLED RAY!

MY PAST IS DEAD, AND I'M GOING TO KEEP IT THAT WAY!

AAAGGHHHH

SWIIIISS

IT MUST HAVE BEEN AT THAT VERY INSTANT THAT I SHOWED UP FOR MY APPOINTMENT WITH STEVE!

IT... IT'S JOHNSON!

HEY, STEVE... OPEN UP!

TOCK

TOCK

I'LL HAVE TO GET RID OF HIM AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE...

ALL RIGHT JOHNSON! BE WITH YOU IN A MOMENT!

I GUESS I DIDN'T NOTICE HOW JITTERY STEVE WAS THAT AFTERNOON BECAUSE I HAD TROUBLES OF MY OWN...

STEVE, I NEED A COVER FOR THE MAGAZINE BY THIS EVENING!

ER... SURE, JOHNSON...

IT'S FOR A STORY CALLED ***THE EATER FROM SPACE***... A GHOULISH CREATURE! IT LOOKS LIKE...

LEAVE THAT TO ME! I'LL USE MY IMAGINATION!

LATER, WHEN I HAD IT ANALYZED, I DISCOVERED IT WAS RAY'S BLOOD... BUT HOW COULD I SUSPECT IT THEN?

HMMM... QUITE A VIVID RED YOU'VE MIXED THERE!

IT... IT'S BLOOD... RAY'S BLOOD... SPURTED OUT WHEN I STABBED HIM! MUST PRETEND IT'S PAINT!

THE HORROR IN STEVE'S MIND MUST'VE GONE INTO THAT PAINTING...
WHAT A COVER IT WILL MAKE! YOU'RE A GENIUS, STEVE!
RAY'S BLOOD... STILL ALIVE WARM... IT... IT SEEMS TO BE GUIDING THE BRUSH WHEN I USE IT...

STEVE FINISHED IN RECORD TIME, AND THE RESULTS WERE TERRIFIC!
THE BEST THING YOU'VE EVER DONE, STEVE!
OKAY... TAKE IT... AND GET OUT!

HMMM... IT'LL TAKE AT LEAST A HALF HOUR TO DRY! LET ME BUY YOU A DRINK, PAL!

LATER...
STEVE! THE PICTURE OF THE MONSTER! IT--IT'S DISAPPEARED! AND A PICTURE OF RAY IN IT'S PLACE? H-HOW DID IT GET THERE?

I... I DON'T KNOW!

IT... IT MUST BE A PRACTICAL JOKE OF RAY'S... YOU GOTTA GET OUT, JOHNSON, I... I FEEL SICK!
STEVE... WAIT... MY COVER! I GOT A DEADLINE!

GET SOMEONE ELSE TO DO YOUR COVER! CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND? I... I WANT TO BE ALONE!
SOCK!

I WAS SCARED BY STEVE'S BEHAVIOR...
STEVE... YOU... YOU MUST LET ME IN! W-WHAT'S WRONG? I... I'LL GET A DOCTOR!
I'VE OFTEN WONDERED WHAT HAPPENED BEHIND THE LOCKED DOOR! THE ONLY POSSIBLE EXPLANATION IS THAT STEVE MUST HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT THE CLOSET WHEN...
RAY'S BODY... GONE... AND IN ITS PLACE...
I HEARD THOSE TERRIFIED SCREAMS...
AAAGHHH! HELP! HELP!
IT... IT'S THE EATER FROM SPACE! HE... HE'S... NO! NO!
HOW ELSE CAN YOU EXPLAIN WHAT I SAW WHEN I FINALLY BROKE THROUGH THAT BOLTED DOOR? THERE WAS NO OTHER WAY OUT OF THE ROOM, AND YET...
TH-THAT SMILE ON IT'S FACE... AS THOUGH IT... IT'S JUST BEEN FED... AND ALL THE BLOOD DRIPPING FROM THOSE JAWS... IT... IT'S HORRIBLE! WHERE IS STEVE?
THE END

# SEAT OF DOOM

IN THE MURKY GLOOM OF THE DEATH HOUSE, BILL DONAHUE WAITED TO TAKE THE SLOW, AGONIZING STEPS DOWN THE LAST MILE!!
BUT I TELL YOU--I'M INNOCENT!
THESE IDIOTS... HA-HA! IF ONLY THEY KNEW THAT WHAT HE SCREAMS IS TRUE!
WHY WON'T ANYONE BELIEVE ME? FIND GIMPY WILSON... HE'S THE MURDERER!!
YEAH...YEAH! ALL YOU GUYS ARE INNOCENT...
YOU'RE ALL MAD!
PIPE DOWN WILLYA, DONAHUE?
TAKE IT EASY, BOY!

ALONE AND FORSAKEN, BILL DONAHUE LISTENS TO THE TICK-TOCK OF THE CLOCK CHIP AWAY THE SECONDS OF HIS LIFE...
THAT CLOCK IS DRIVING ME MAD!
1
TICK
TOCK
TICK
4
6
TOCK

WH...? OH, I...I MUST VE DOZED OFF...WARDEN --IT ISN'T TIME...?
TAKE IT EASY; DONAHUE... YOU'VE GOT A FEW HOURS YET!
WE'VE JUST COME TO GET YOU READY...

ANY LAST REQUEST, DONAHUE?
WARDEN, LISTEN TO ME! I DIDN'T KILL THAT MAN...YOU'RE GOING TO ELECTROCUTE AN INNOCENT MAN!

THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO FOR YOU!
ALL SOUNDS AND VOICES ECHOED IN BILL'S SKULL! HIS BRAIN WAS FILLED WITH TERROR!
NO...NO... I'M NOT A MURDERER!
YOU'RE GOING TO FRY...
I CAN DO NOTHING FOR YOU...
TICK
TOCK
TICK
JOHN! YOU'VE COME FROM THE GOVERNOR! YOU...YOU TOLD HIM I'M INNOCENT?
YES, BILL...I'VE BEEN WITH THE GOVERNOR...

HE SAYS HE CAN DO NOTHING!
NINE O'CLOCK... TWO MORE HOURS TO LIVE! ONLY TWO MORE!
TICK TOCK
TICK TOC
FATHER...YOU... YOU WILL LISTEN TO ME, WON'T YOU?
I HAVE COME TO COMFORT YOU, MY SON!
AND SO, DONAHUE POURS OUT HIS STORY FOR THE LAST TIME... RELIVING AGAIN THAT AWFUL MOMENT AGAIN WHEN...
WHO...WHO DID IT, OLD MAN...TELL ME...
F-FIND G-GIMPY WILSON... AYAHHH!
JACK... LOOK SOME-THING'S GOING ON OVER THERE!

...AND WHEN THE OLD MAN DIED, FATHER, THEY SAID I DID IT! BUT I FOUND HIM HALF DEAD!
BUT NO ONE EVER HEARD OF GIMPY WILSON, MY BOY!
HEY, SLUG... YOU HEAR SOMETHING?
NAW...JUST YOUR NERVES! BILL GETS IT TONIGHT!
SLAP...SLAP...
SLOWLY, THE MINUTE HAND OF THE DEATH-HOUSE CLOCK REACHED THE HOUR OF DOOM!
THE HOUR IS HERE, MY SON...
ALL RIGHT! I'M READY!
Then... THE DREADFUL WALK...THE LAST MILE...

DONAHUE, HAVE YOU ANY LAST WORDS?
ONLY THAT I AM INNOCENT AND I PRAY THAT THE TRUE MURDERER MEETS THE SAME FATE AS I!

DEAD SILENCE FELL AS THE WARDEN GAVE THE SIGNAL...
I--I CAN'T SEEM TO...UH... PULL THE SWITCH ALL THE WAY! S-SOMETHING COLD HOLDING MY HAND
AAAHHHH

THEN, SUDDENLY, A SOUL-SPLITTING LAUGH RANG IN THE ROOM...
HA! HA! HA!! YOU'VE KILLED HIM! AND I'M GIMPY WILSON! I HAVE COMMITTED THE PERFECT CRIME! HAHAHA!
GOOD LORD! DONAHUE WAS INNOCENT!
THE CHARGE... IT... IT WASN'T ENOUGH TO KILL HIM!
THEN HE HEARD ME!! NO...KEEP HIM AWAY FROM ME... YAHH-H!

THE TERRIFYING FIGURE OF BILL DONAHUE STALKED GIMPY LIKE AN AVENGING SPIRIT AND WRAPPED HIM IN AN ELECTRICAL EMBRACE OF DEATH...
SCRILL
CH

WHAT A TERRIBLE AND STRANGE PHENOMENA...THE PARTIAL SHOCK GAVE HIM SUPER-HUMAN STRENGTH FOR A FEW MOMENTS!
YES...AND DONAHUE GOT HIS FINAL WISH! THE REAL MURDERER DID MEET A DEATH AS HORRIBLE AS HIS OWN!
THE END

CARL BORMAN KNEW THAT THE ONLY WAY TO THE ANCIENT TREASURE OF SHABAOL WAS BY SATISFYING THE TERRIBLE HUNGER OF...

# THE MUD CREATURES

DEEP IN THE MUSTY ARCHIVES OF A LIBRARY, CARL BORMAN HAS MADE A STARTLING

AN ACCOUNT OF A VISIT TO *SHABAOL!* THE LOST FABULOUS CITY OF THE JUNGLE... SHABAOL, THE TREASURE HOUSE OF THE WORLD 5000 YEARS AGO!

HUNGRILY HE READ THE MANUSCRIPT WRITTEN IN A LONG FORGOTTEN TONGUE!

I FOLLOWED THE RIVER KNOWN AS ADRESHA FOR TWO HUNDRED LEAGUES, AND THEN TURNED TO THE SETTING SUN FOR... IT... *IT'S INCREDIBLE! CLEAR DIRECTIONS FOR FINDING SHABAOL!*

IN THE CENTER OF THE CITY LIES THE TREASURE CHAMBER ...IT'S WEALTH GUARDED BY THE MONSTER GOLGOTH WHO SLEEPS BENEATH THE SANDS... AND NONE MAY TAKE THE TREASURE SURE UNLESS HE SACRIFICES TWO LIVING MEN TO THE BEAST!

TWO LIVING MEN, EH? HMMM... CLARK AND EVANS... THEY'LL LEAP AT THE CHANCE TO GO WITH ME!

BORMAN TOLD HIS FRIENDS THE ENTIRE STORY BUT FORGOT TO MENTION THE QUICKSAND BEAST!
THE TREASURE OF SHABAOL! WHY... WE... WE'LL BE THE RICHEST MEN IN THE WORLD!
I'VE PLANNED THE TRIP DOWN TO THE LAST DETAIL WE'LL LEAVE AT ONCE

WEEKS LATER, IN THE HEART OF THE MUTE
SHABAOL! WE'VE FOUND IT!
LET'S GET TO THE CENTER OF THE CITY... THAT'S WHERE THE TREASURE IS!

EVERY DETAIL OF THAT ANCIENT MANUSCRIPT WAS TRUE!
I WONDER IF THE LEGEND OF THE BEAST IS ALSO TRUE...

WOW! LOOK AT THAT TREASURE... BUT HOW WE GET ACROSS THE QUICKSAND?
NONE MAY TAKE THE TREASURE UNLESS HE SACRIFICE TWO LIVING MEN TO THE BEAST OF THE QUAGMIRE! I'M TO DELIVER THESE TWO TO YOU!

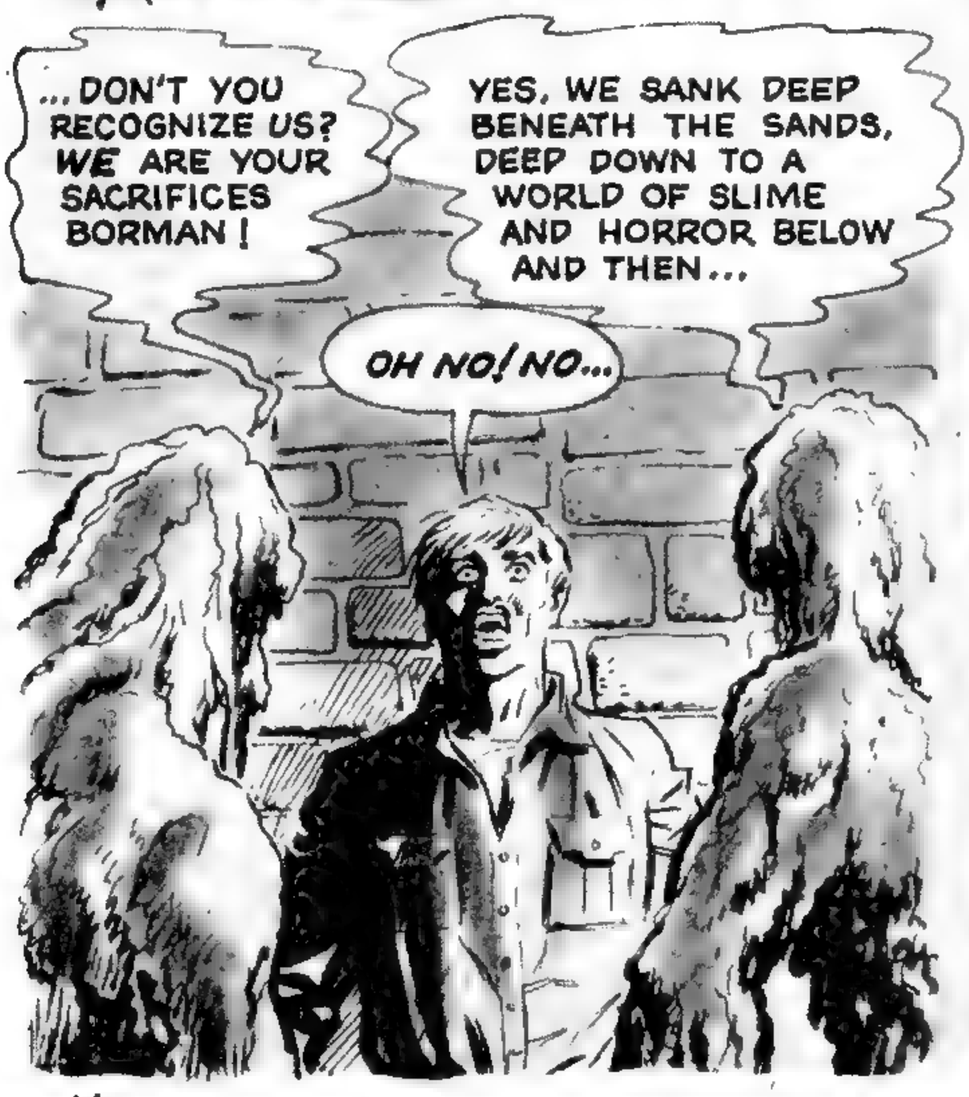
BORMAN! NO! NO!
AARGHHH!

RELENTLESSLY, THE OOZING QUICKSAND SUCKED THE TWO STRUGGLING FIGURES DOWN!
BORMAN, YOU DEVIL! YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS!
I HAVE DONE AS YOU ASKED, GOLGOTH. WHERE IS MY REWARD!

INSTANTLY A SOLID WALK ROSE FROM THE SLIME BELOW
THE TREASURE IS MINE! GOLGOTH KEEPS HIS WORD!

LADEN WITH TREASURE BORMAN MAKES HIS WAY TO THE JUNGLE WHEN ...
HEY! WHAT'S THIS? STATUES! THEY WEREN'T THERE WHEN WE CAME IN... ODD... VERY ODD!

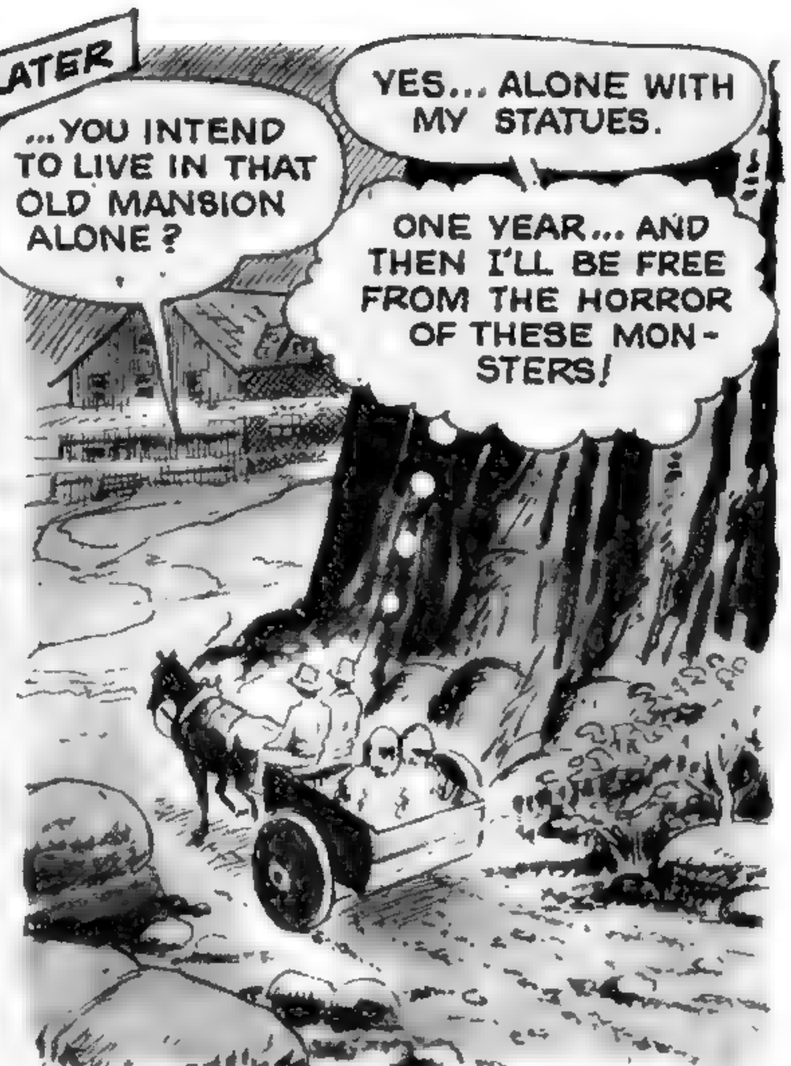
... W-WHY THEY'RE ALIVE! THEY'RE MOVING! ... WHAT DO YOU WANT? ... WHO ARE YOU?
... BORMAN...


... DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE US? WE ARE YOUR SACRIFICES BORMAN!
YES, WE SANK DEEP BENEATH THE SANDS, DEEP DOWN TO A WORLD OF SLIME AND HORROR BELOW AND THEN...
OH NO! NO...

...WE SAW HIM GOLGOTH... THE BEAST OF QUAGMIRE!..
WELCOME TO THE LAIR OF GOLGOTH! YOU WILL SERVE ME FOREVER IN THESE DEPTHS BELOW THE WORLD... THE LIVING FLESH OF YOUR BODIES CHANGED BY THE SANDS OF MY QUAGMIRE!

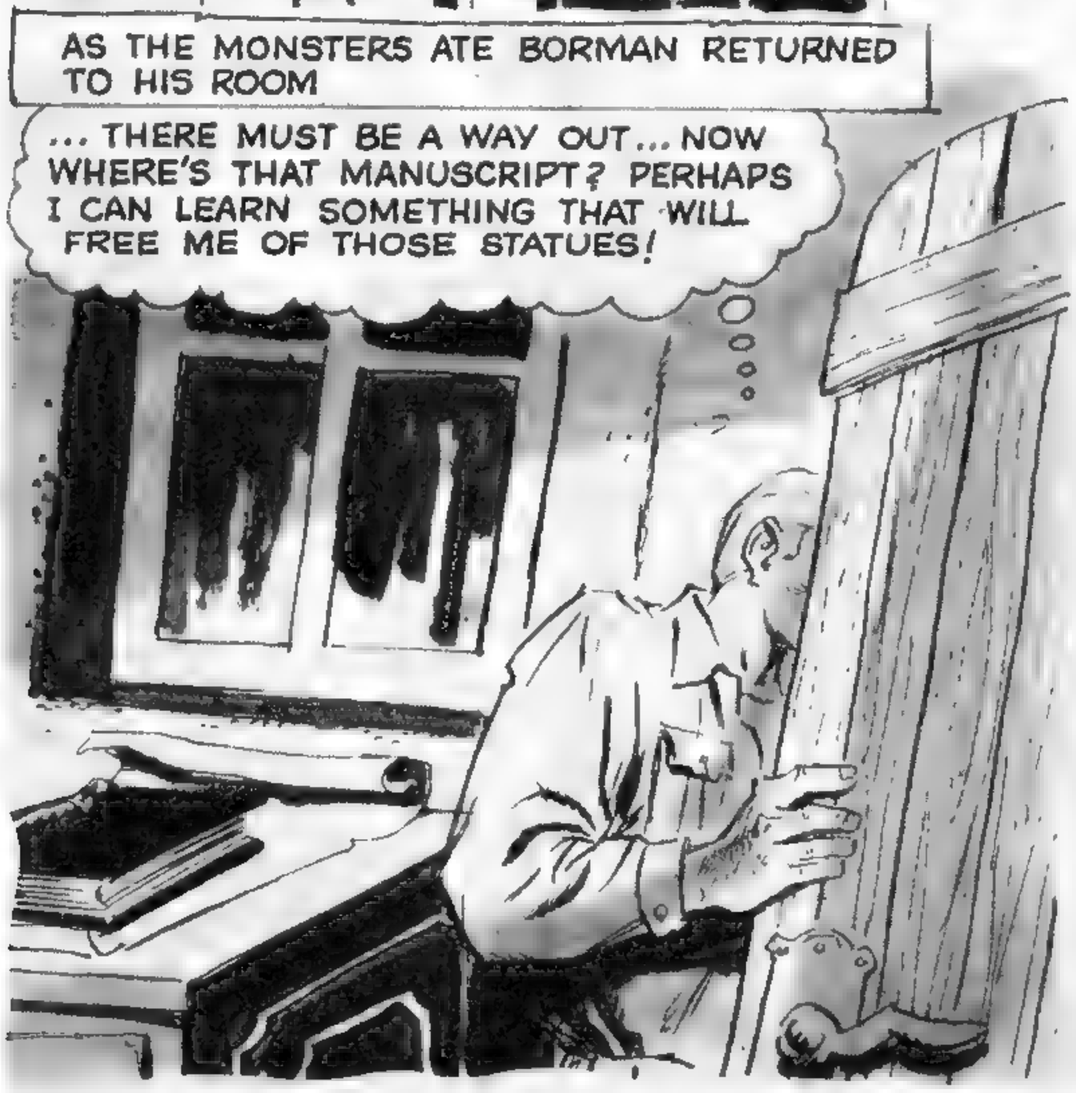
OF COURSE! BUT WE MADE A BARGAIN WITH GOLGOTH, TOO. HE GRANTED US A YEAR'S FREEDOM... TO ENJOY THE LUXURIES WE NEVER HAD... WHICH YOUR TREASURE CAN BUY FOR US!

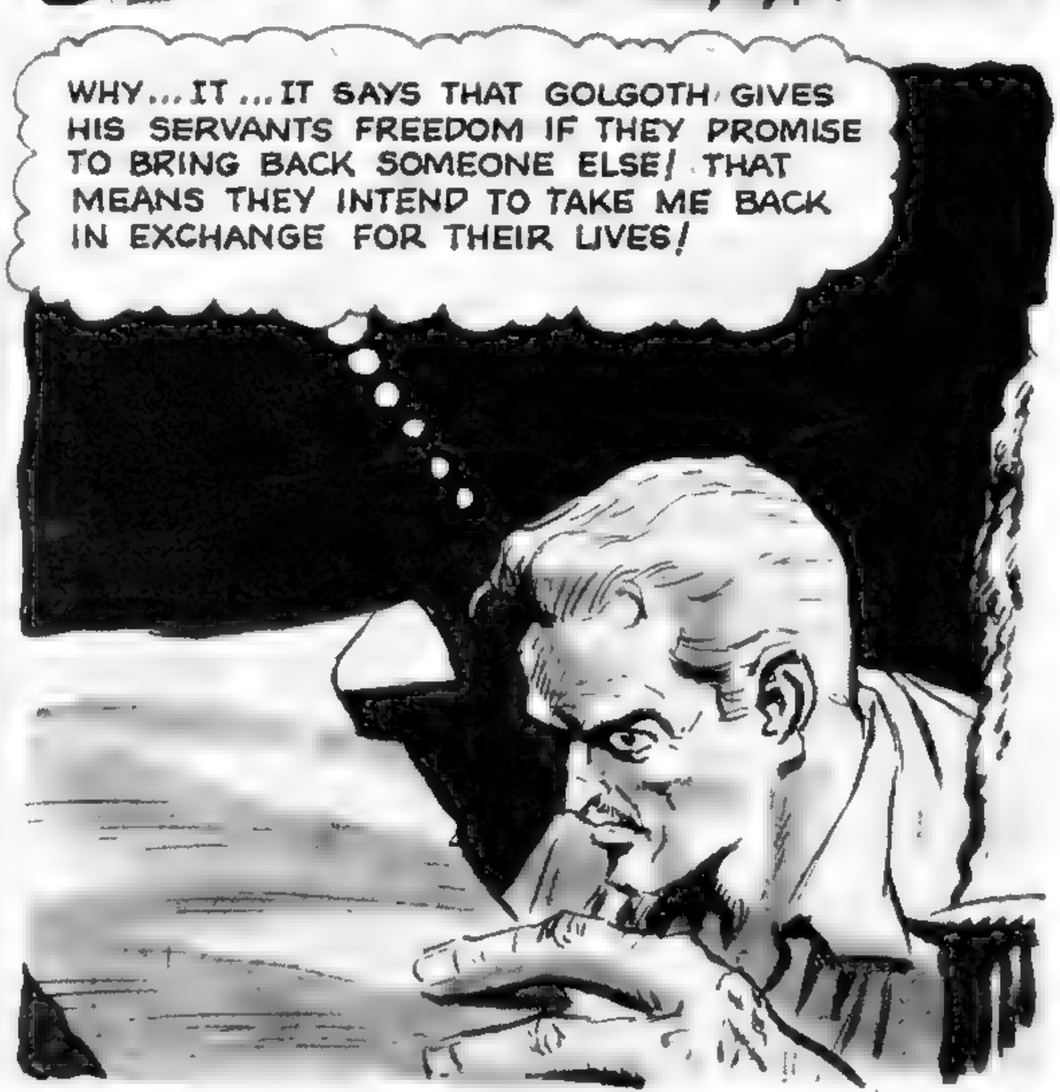
DURING THAT YEAR, YOU WILL SERVE US... USING YOUR TREASURE TO GRANT OUR EVERY WHIM AND WISH!
YES! YES! ...ANYTHING!


LATER
...YOU INTEND TO LIVE IN THAT OLD MANSION ALONE?
YES... ALONE WITH MY STATUES.
ONE YEAR... AND THEN I'LL BE FREE FROM THE HORROR OF THESE MONSTERS!

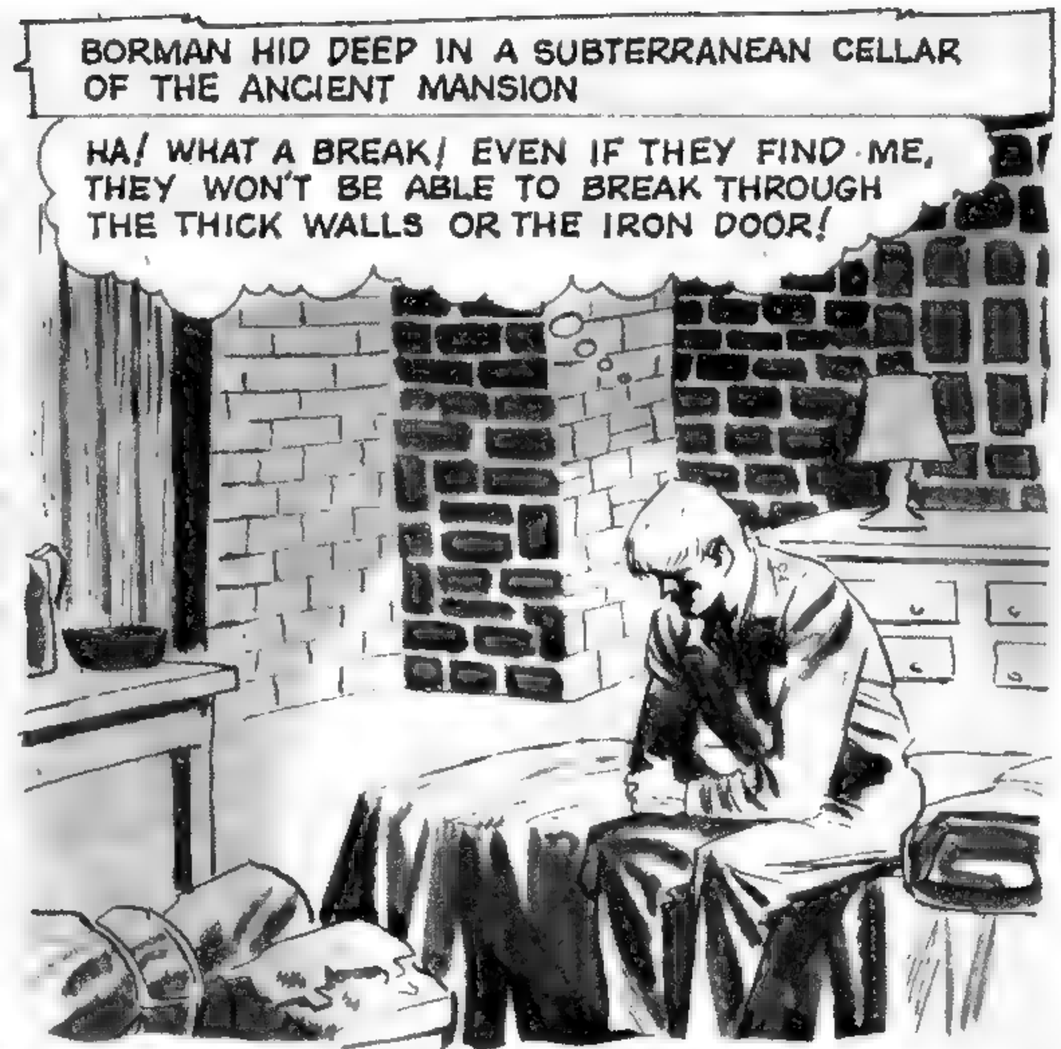
MONTHS PASSED AND BORMAN CARRIED OUT EVERY WHIM OF THE SAND STATUES...
HERE ARE THE RECORDS AND BOOKS YOU WANTED!
AHH... MY FAVOURITE MUSIC. PLAY THEM WHILE WE EAT!
YOU CAN READ TO US LATER! ...NOW BRING THE FOOD... WE'RE FAMISHED!

...IT'S ABOUT TIME! NOW SET IT DOWN AND I HOPE IT'S WELL DONE! I'M GETTING TIRED OF YOUR MISERABLE COOKING!
...I-I SPENT ALL DAY PREPARING IT!
IT'S INTOLERABLE... WAITING ON THEM ALL DAY... NEVER KNOWING WHEN THEY MAY TURN ON ME AND DESTROY ME!

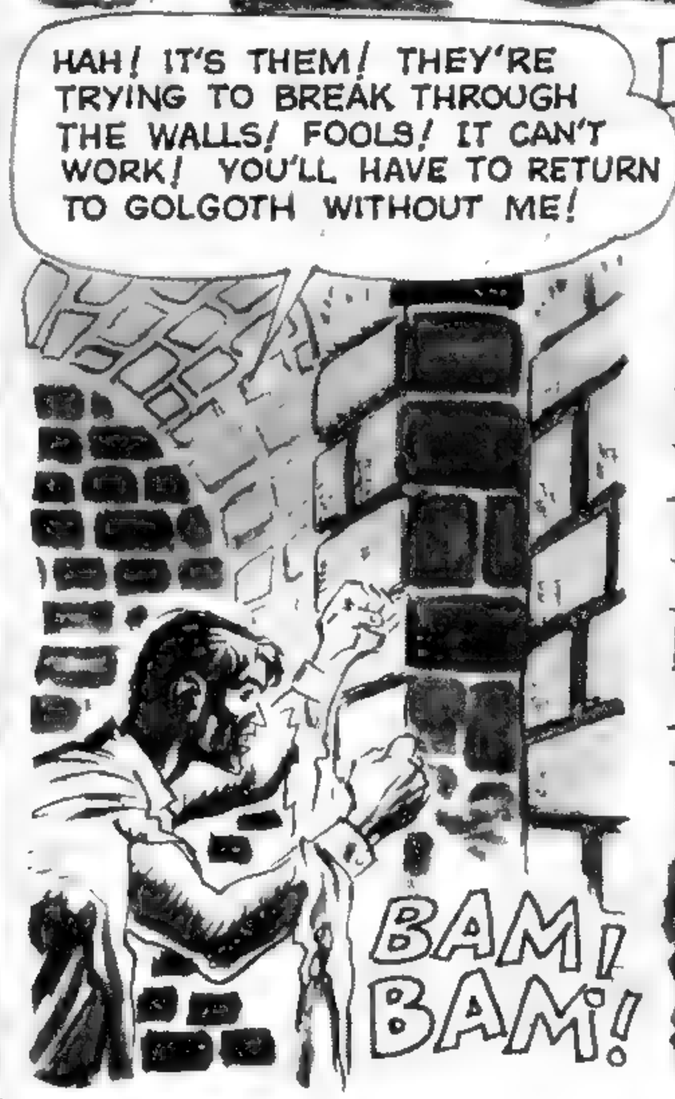

AS THE MONSTERS ATE BORMAN RETURNED TO HIS ROOM
...THERE MUST BE A WAY OUT... NOW WHERE'S THAT MANUSCRIPT? PERHAPS I CAN LEARN SOMETHING THAT WILL FREE ME OF THOSE STATUES!


WHY... IT... IT SAYS THAT GOLGOTH GIVES HIS SERVANTS FREEDOM IF THEY PROMISE TO BRING BACK SOMEONE ELSE! THAT MEANS THEY INTEND TO TAKE ME BACK IN EXCHANGE FOR THEIR LIVES!

I...I MUST HIDE... SOMEWHERE SO THEY'LL NEVER FIND ME UNTIL THE YEAR IS OVER, THEN I'LL BE FREE TO GO AND DO AS I PLEASE...


BORMAN HID DEEP IN A SUBTERRANEAN CELLAR OF THE ANCIENT MANSION
HA! WHAT A BREAK! EVEN IF THEY FIND ME, THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO BREAK THROUGH THE THICK WALLS OR THE IRON DOOR!

FOR MONTHS BORMAN LIVED IN THE DUNGEON
...IN A LITTLE WHILE THEIR YEAR WILL BE OVER ...THEY'LL BE FORCED TO RETURN WITHOUT ME... AND THEN I'LL BE FREE... FREE!


HAH! IT'S THEM! THEY'RE TRYING TO BREAK THROUGH THE WALLS! FOOLS! IT CAN'T WORK! YOU'LL HAVE TO RETURN TO GOLGOTH WITHOUT ME!
BAM! BAM!

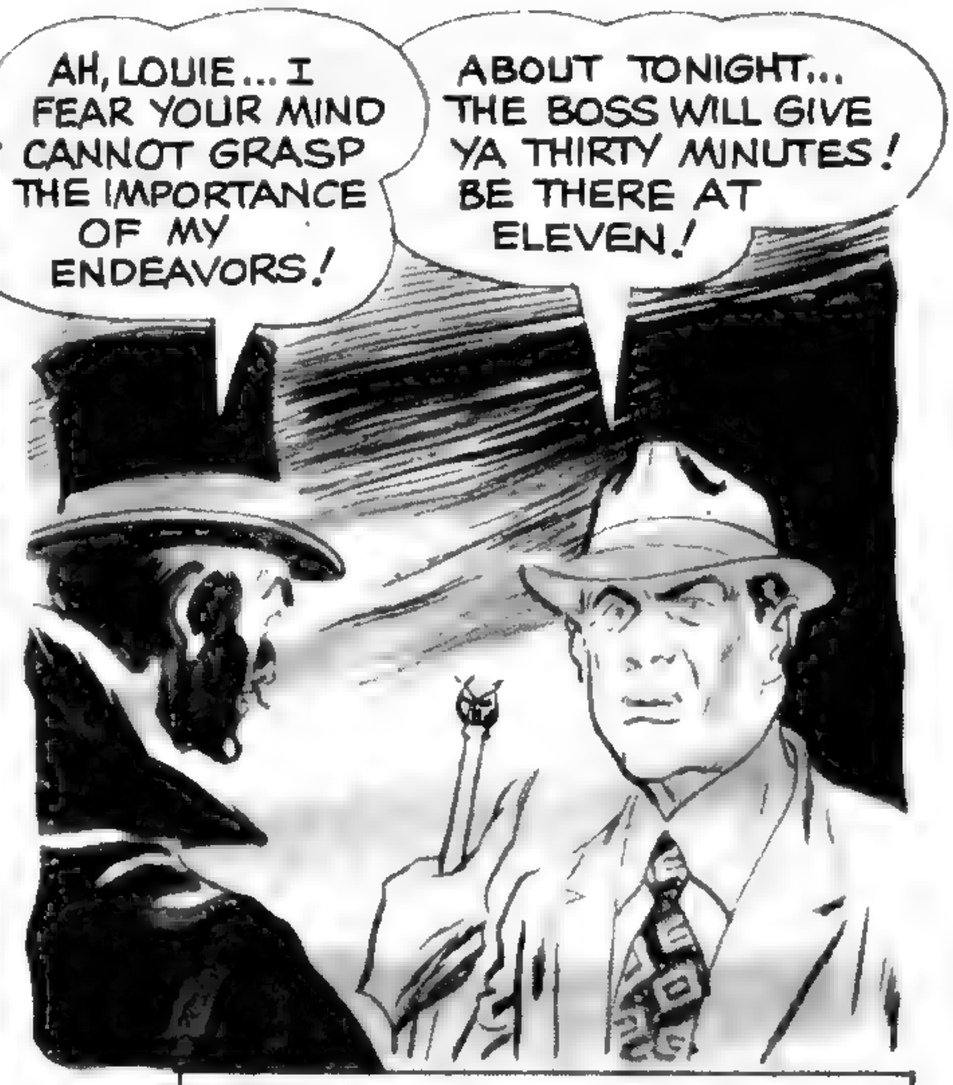
SUDDENLY
GOLGOTH HAS TURNED THE WALLS TO QUICKSAND... NO ONE ESCAPES THE GREAT ONE!
HELP!

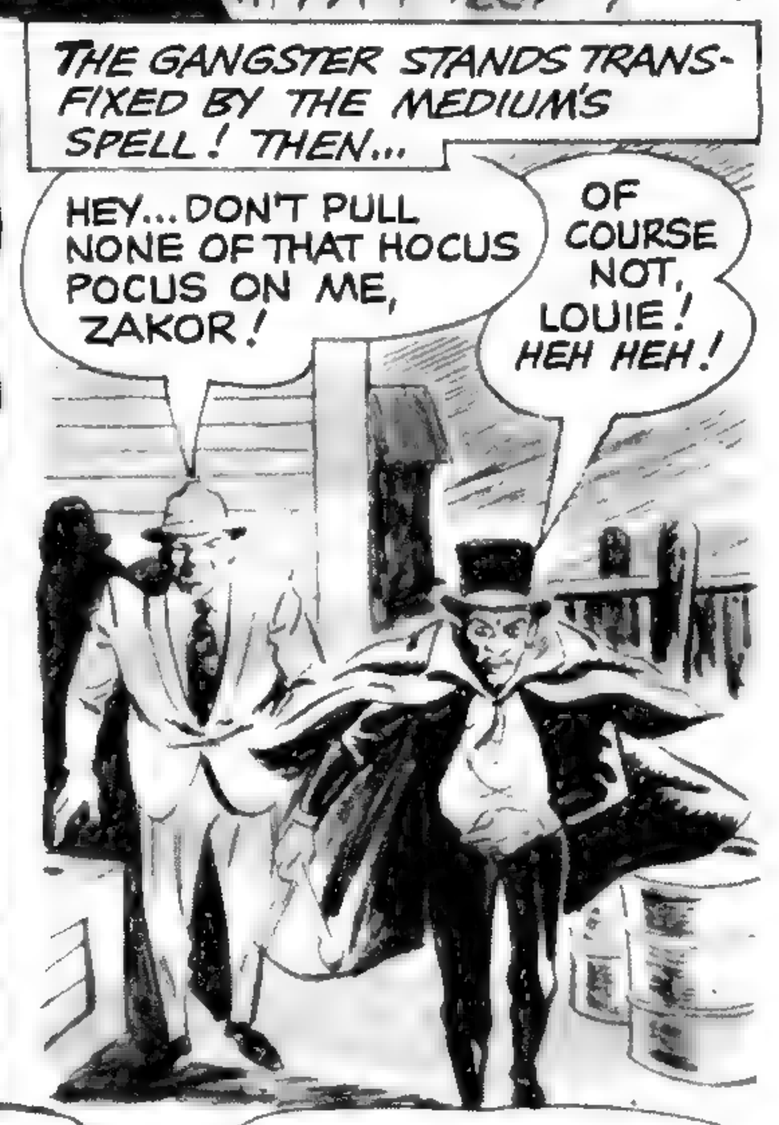
YAAH! THE FLOOR... IT... IT'S QUICKSAND... SPREADING TOWARD ME! IN A MOMENT I'LL SINK DOWN!
YES...DOWN TO GOLGOTH!

DO NOT BE IMPATIENT GOLGOTH HE'S COMING TO SERVE YOU FOREVER!
YEEECH! T...THE MONSTER... HE'S DRAGGING ME DOWN!
THE END

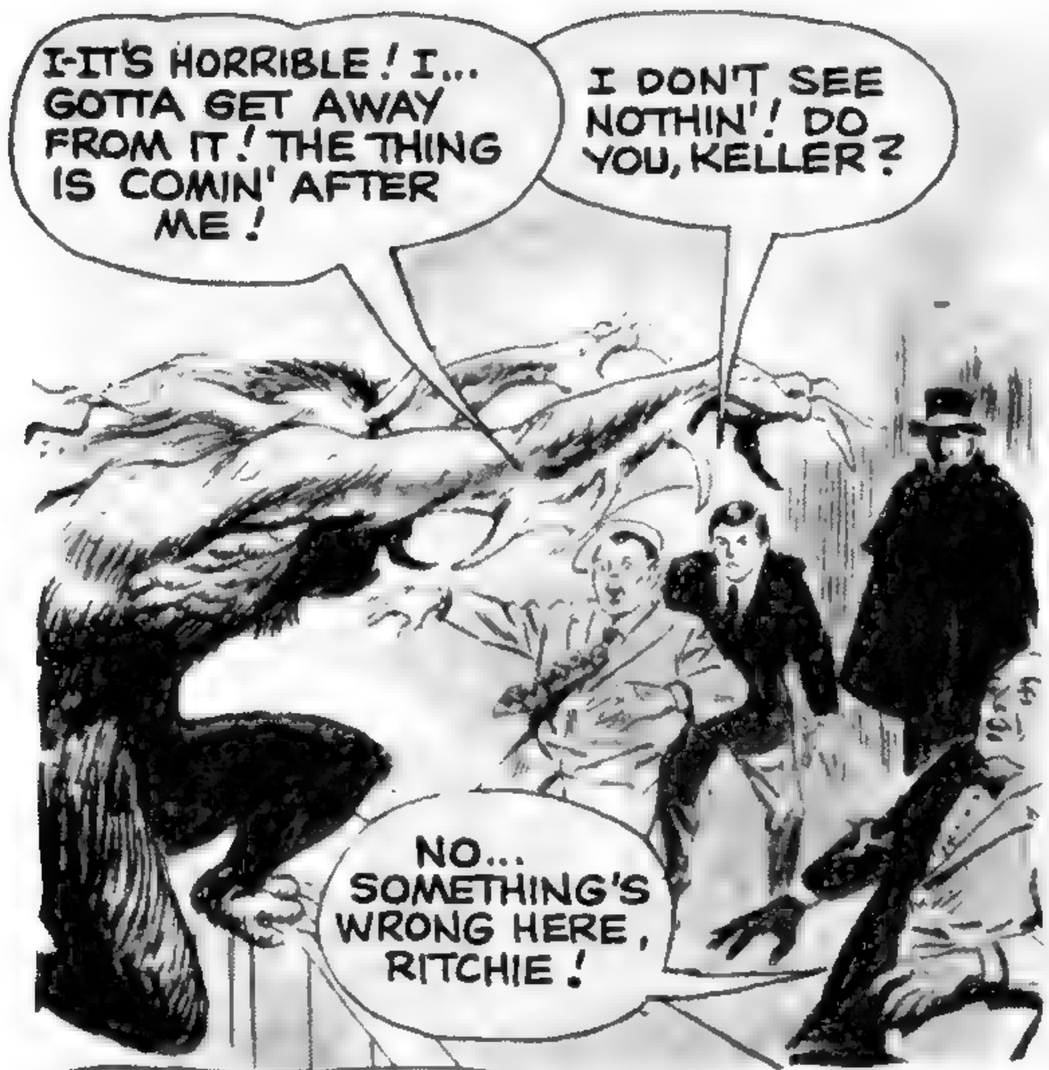
# THE CONJURER

IN A SWIRLING FOG ON THE WATERFRONT A SHORT, STOCKY MAN PACES BACK AND FORTH IMPATIENTLY!





VERY WELL! I HAVE AN INGENIOUS PLAN... ONE WHICH WILL BENEFIT YOUR BUSINESS! I CAN GUARANTEE THE PERFECT MURDER!
START TALKING SENSE, ZAKOR!
THE HIRING OF GUNMEN TO ANNIHILATE YOUR ENEMIES IS OBSELETE, KELLER! WHY NOT EMPLOY GHOSTS TO DO THE JOB?
LISTEN, ZAKOR... I GOT NO TIME FOR RIBS!
THIS IS NO JEST, KELLER! I AM IN COMMAND OF THE SPIRITUAL WORLD! AND I ALONE HAVE THE POWER TO CONTROL IT! IF IT'S PROOF YOU WANT I CAN FURNISH IT...
HOLD IT LOUIE, LET HIM TALK!
YOU SAY YOU CAN PROVE THIS... ALL RIGHT... GO AHEAD!
I'LL NEED A VICTIM FOR MY GHOST... WHAT ABOUT YOU, LOUIE? YOU HAVE VOICED YOUR DISBELIEF IN MY STATEMENT!
SURE... I'D BE GLAD TO MAKE A SAP OUTA YA!
MOVING TO THE TERRACE ZAKOR FACES THE HEAVENS ABOVE! THEN WITH OUTSTRETCHED HANDS, CHANTS AS THE GANGSTERS LOOK ON!
SPIRITS... SPIRITS... I, ZAKOR, COMMAND YOU! I WISH TO BE RID OF THIS MORTAL LOUIE! COME AND TAKE HIM FROM THIS EARTH...
HUMPH! THIS CHARACTER SHOULD GET A ONE WAY TICKET TO THE NUTHOUSE!
CONTORTING HIS BODY GROTESQUELY, THE MEDIUM SUMMONS ALL HIS STRENGTH...
DEMON SPIRITS! DESTROY THIS MAN AS I COMMAND!
HAHAHAHAHA! THIS IS BETTER THAN A THREE RING CIRCUS...
BUT SUDDENLY, LAUGHTER LEAVES THE FACE OF THE MOBSTER AS...
THERE... THERE IS THE MAN WHO DOUBTS MY POWER! DESTROY HIM!
HO HO HO... I-I... WHA? T-THAT THING... WHAT IS IT?

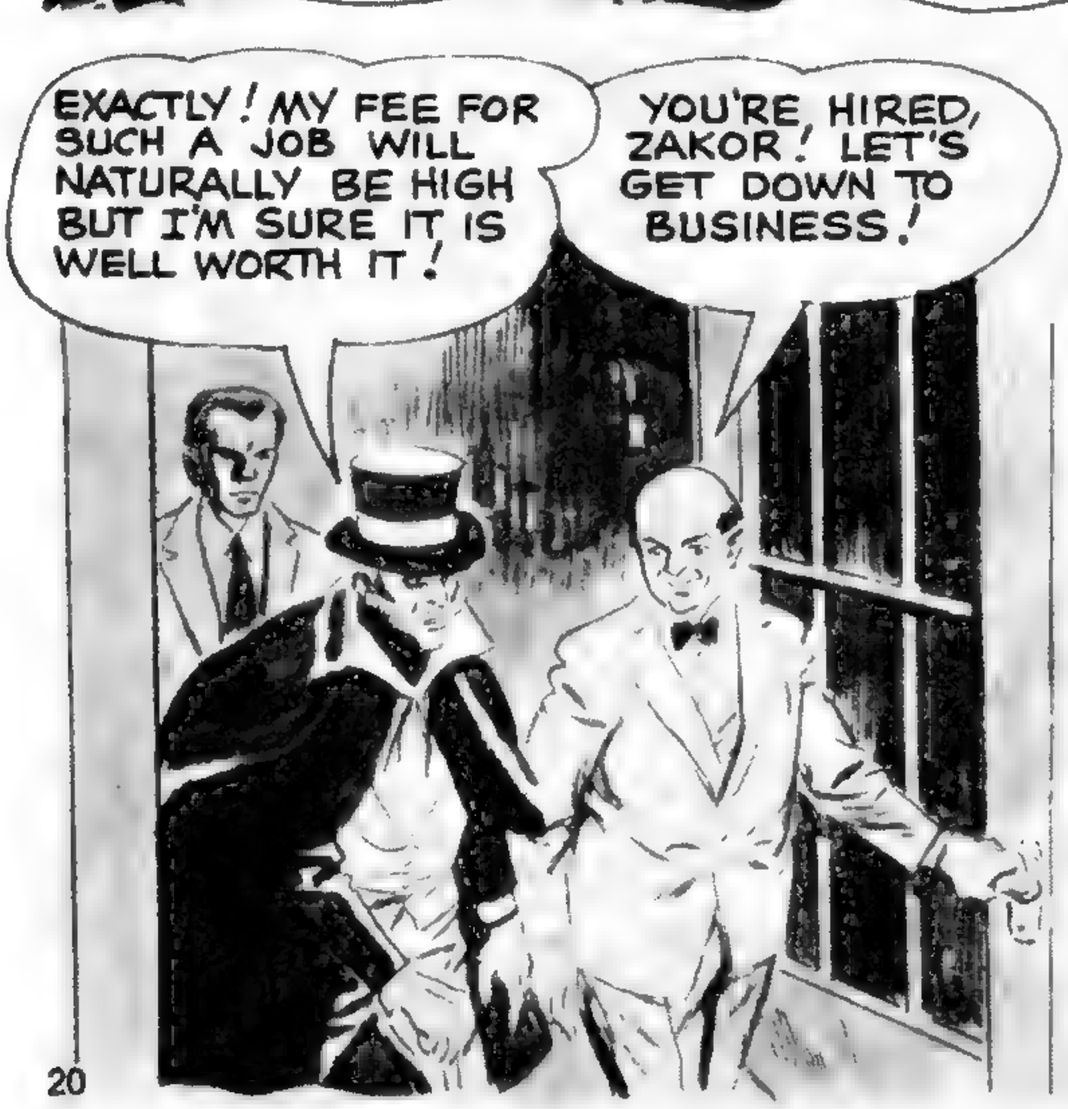

I-IT'S HORRIBLE! I... GOTTA GET AWAY FROM IT! THE THING IS COMIN' AFTER ME!
I DON'T SEE NOTHIN'! DO YOU, KELLER?
NO... SOMETHING'S WRONG HERE, RITCHIE!

Y-YIPE! IT'S...GOT ME BY THE THROAT! CALL IT OFF, ZAKOR... PLEASE!
SORRY, I HAVE NO MERCY FOR THOSE WHO DISBELIEVE! DESTROY THIS MORTAL, GHOST!

C-CAN'T BREATHE... CHOKING THE LIFE ...OUT... OF ME... GASP GASP
L-LOUIE???
AN EXCELLENT JOB, GHOST! NOW RETURN... TO YOUR WORLD OF EVIL!

HE'S...THE DEADEST MAN I EVER SEEN, BOSS!
IT'S...REMARKABLE! ZAKOR, YOU ARE ON THE LEVEL! BUT WE SAW NO GHOST... HOW COME?
THAT WAS TO IMPRESS YOU WITH MY POWERS!

IMAGINE DESTROYING YOUR ENEMIES IN SUCH FASHION! NO EVIDENCE TO CONVICT YOU!
WHAT A GIMMICK! I COULD BUMP OFF ED BROGAN AND ACE MAGELLAN WITH THESE GHOSTS.


EXACTLY! MY FEE FOR SUCH A JOB WILL NATURALLY BE HIGH BUT I'M SURE IT IS WELL WORTH IT!
YOU'RE HIRED, ZAKOR! LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS!

THUS, KELLER PLOTS THE DESTRUCTION OF HIS MOST HATED ENEMY.
I WANT BROGAN WIPED FAST... HE'S MY MAIN THREAT! DO YOU THINK YOU COULD GET ONE OF YOUR... GHOSTS ON THE JOB RIGHT AWAY!
HE WILL BE A DEAD MAN IN TWENTY FOUR HOURS!

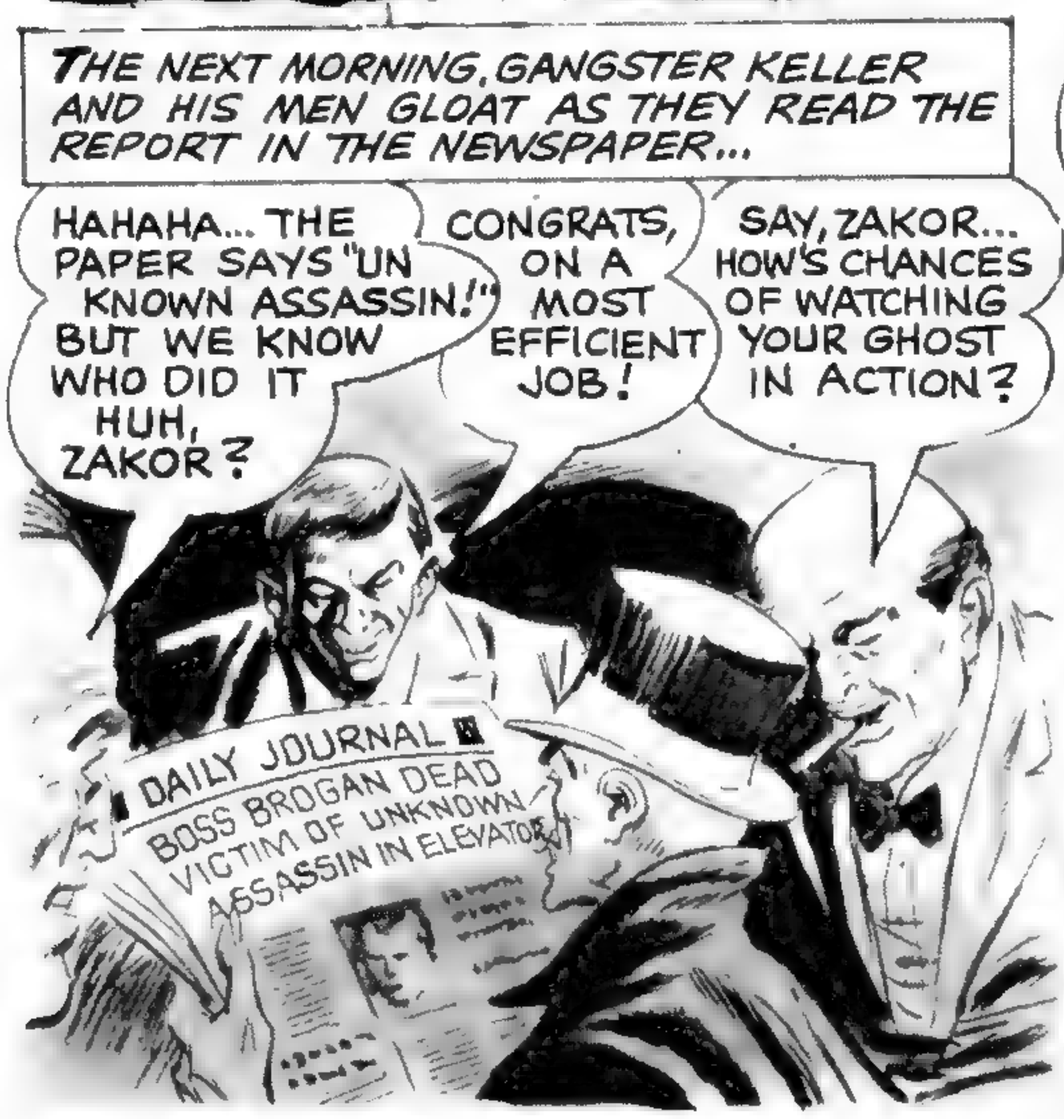
THE FOLLOWING EVENING AS "BOSS" ED BROGAN DESCENDS IN THE ELEVATOR FROM HIS APARTMENT...

SUDDENLY...
WHA... THE LIGHTS HAVE GONE OUT! G-GREAT SCOTT! WHAT'S THAT...

Y-YIPE! W-WHO ARE YOU? WHAT IS THIS...A JOKE?
AAAIIIEEE EEEE EEEE!

Y-YOU'RE NOT HUMAN! GET AWAY FROM ME! GET AWAY!

YAAAAARGH!


THE NEXT MORNING, GANGSTER KELLER AND HIS MEN GLOAT AS THEY READ THE REPORT IN THE NEWSPAPER...
HAHAHA... THE PAPER SAYS "UNKNOWN ASSASSIN!" BUT WE KNOW WHO DID IT HUH, ZAKOR?
CONGRATS, ON A MOST EFFICIENT JOB!
SAY, ZAKOR... HOW'S CHANCES OF WATCHING YOUR GHOST IN ACTION?
DAILY JOURNAL
BOSS BROGAN DEAD
VICTIM OF UNKNOWN ASSASSIN IN ELEVATOR

VERY WELL! THAT IS QUITE EASY TO ARRANGE!
SWELL!
BOY...I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE ACE GET IT!

THE NEXT EVENING, AS ACE MAGELLAN, HEADS FOR HIS HIDEOUT!
HERE HE COMES! THAT'S MAGELLAN'S CAR!
SILENCE! YOU MUST NOT MAKE A SOUND WHILE I SUMMON THE SPIRITS OF DEATH!... ARISE... ARISE, SPECTRES OF EVIL!

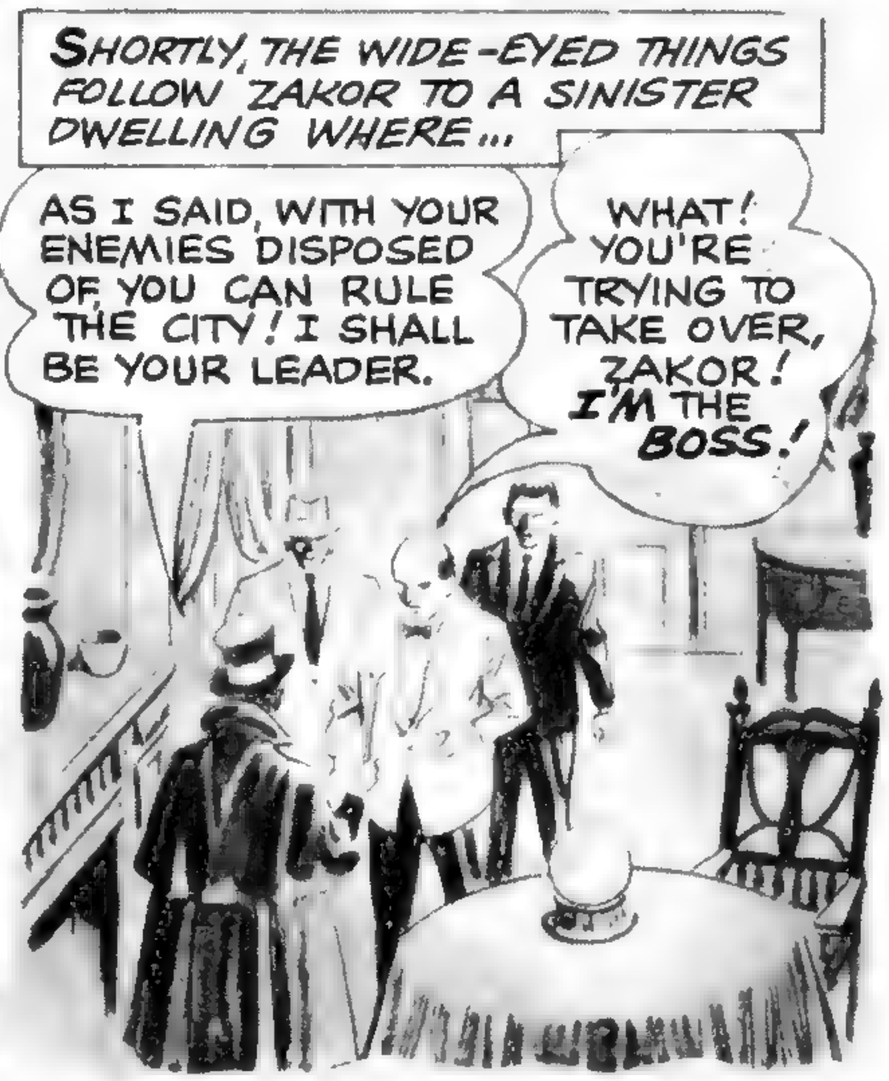
OH, MIGHTY GHOSTS OF VENGEANCE... REVEAL YOURSELF! SLAY ACE MAGELLAN!
S-SUFFERING CATS!

SHORTLY, ACE MAGELLAN, HARDENED KILLER OF THE WEST SIDE, CRINGES BEFORE THE TERRIFYING SPECTRE THAT MOVES TOWARD HIM!
WHA...? Y!!!!!!!! T-THE THING'S NOT HUMAN!
L-LOOK! T-THERE'S THE... KILLER GHOST!

AS THE GANG LEADER FLEES THE FEARFUL THING PURSUES HIM!
HEEEEEEA, EEEE!!!! OOOO!

AND...
HEE HEEEE! THE END, ACE MAGELLAN. JOIN ME IN THE GLOOM OF DEATH!
YARAAGH!

I-I NEVER SEEN NOTHING LIKE THAT BEFORE!
NO INDEED! NOW, YOUR RIVALS ARE DEAD! WE WILL RETURN TO MY CHAMBER TO DISCUSS... ER, BUSINESS!


SHORTLY, THE WIDE-EYED THINGS FOLLOW ZAKOR TO A SINISTER DWELLING WHERE...
AS I SAID, WITH YOUR ENEMIES DISPOSED OF, YOU CAN RULE THE CITY! I SHALL BE YOUR LEADER.
WHAT! YOU'RE TRYING TO TAKE OVER, ZAKOR! I'M THE BOSS!

THAT'S RIGHT! YOU WUZ JUST WORKIN' FER *US!* "BIG JIMS" THE BOSS!

YEAH! DON'T GET SMART!

YOU FOOLS! *WATCH! OH, MIGHTY DEMONS SPRING FORTH!*

*INSTANTLY THE LIGHTS DIM... A FEARFUL CRY RINGS OUT! STARK TERROR IS UNLEASHED UPON THREE HOODLUMS!*

Y-YIPE! STOP IT, ZAKOR! DON'T LET 'EM GET US!

ULP!

G-GREAT GRIEF, ZAKOR, MERCY! WE'LL DO AS YOU SAY!

VERY WELL!... *CEASE DEMONS FROM THE BEYOND!*

RETURN TO YOUR HOMES! ON THE MORROW YOU WILL WORK AS MY UNDER-LINGS!

Y-YES, ZAKOR!

Y-YES!

*THEN, AFTER THE TREMBLING THUGS HAVE LEFT...*

I DID WELL, DID I NOT, OH GREAT, ZAKOR! THE MAGICAL EFFECTS WORKED!

EXCELLENT, MAJA! HA! HOW WE FOOLED THEM BY YOU COMMITTING THE MURDERS AS YOU PRETEND TO BE A GHOST!

YES, ZAKOR... BUT IT WAS YOUR MASTER STROKE OF PREVIOUSLY HYPNOTIZING "LITTLE LOUIE" THAT MADE THEM BELIEVE!

HE HAD A BAD HEART! I KNEW HE WOULD DIE OF FRIGHT WHEN HIS MIND ENVISIONED THE GHOST!

*THUS ZAKAR'S EVIL SCHEME PAYS BIG DIVIDENDS!*

THE PROCEEDS FROM THE WEST END BANK ROBBERY, ZAKOR!

A-AND THE JEWELS FROM THE EATON HOTEL ROBBERY!

GOOD! CONTINUE YOUR FINE THEFTS AND WE SHALL HAVE NO TROUBLE!

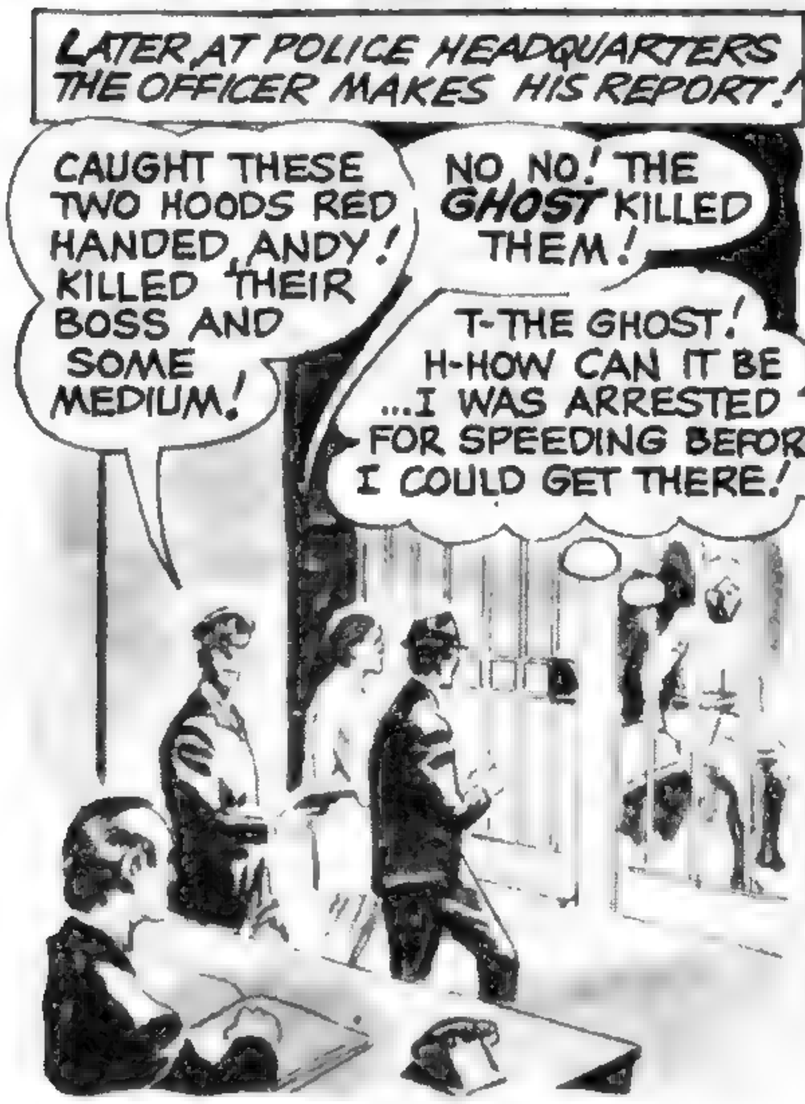
HIGHER AND HIGHER ZAKOR'S ILL GOTTEN GAINS ARE PILED UP! THEN, THE MEDIUM'S KEEN EYES SENSE TROUBLE...
AH, ZAKOR, WE HAVE A FABULOUS AMOUNT OF WEALTH ALREADY!
YES, MAJA, BUT I HAVE SEEN MURDER IN KELLER'S EYES OF LATE!
TOMORROW NIGHT AT EIGHT YOU WILL DISPOSE OF KELLER!
I WILL BE IN THE SECRET BACK ROOM AT EIGHT SHARP! DO NOT FEAR!
THE NEXT EVENING, DOOM MOVES IN ON "BIG JIM" KELLER!
HARK WELL, KELLER! MY SPIRITS TELL ME YOU PLAN TO HARM ME! THEY HAVE DECIDED YOU MUST DIE!
WHA...?
HEAR ME, OH SPIRITS! DESEND UPON THIS MAN WHO WISHES ME HARM!
F-FINGERS! H-HARRY! HELP ME! DO SOMETHING!
W-WE CAN'T BOSS!
THE GHOST OF RIGHT SEEKS YOU OUT, KELLER! HE HAS COME FROM BEYOND TO DESTROY, THOSE WITH EVIL IN THEIR HEART!
HA! MAJA GETS CLEVERER EACH DAY! SUCH A COSTUME...
NO! NO!
THE GREAT GHOSTLY HANDS CLOSE UPON KELLER! HE IS HELPLESS!
WELL DONE, OH, GHOST OF RIGHT! INDEED YOU DO YOUR JOB OF DESTROYING EVIL WELL! FINGERS, HARRY... LET THIS BE A LESSON TO YOU!
YAAAAAGH!
THEN, THE TERRIBLE THING TURNS... IT'S GHOSTLY EYES FALL UPON ZAKOR HIMSELF...
BACK... BACK GHOST OF RIGHT! YOUR JOB IS FINISHED!
NO, ZAKOR... MY JOB... IS NOT DONE... YET!

CLOSER, CLOSER COMES THE THING FROM THE GRAVE!
STOP! STOP, YOU FOOL! HAVE YOU GONE MAD?

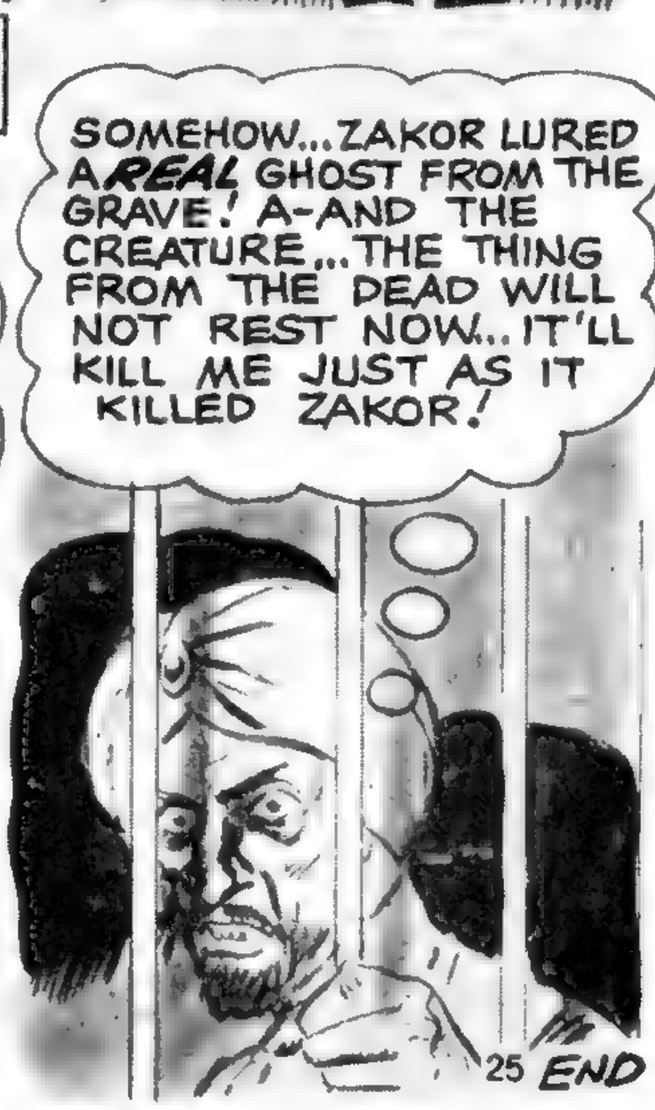
THEN...
MAJA! MAJA! YAAAAAAAA!

L-LET ME OUTA HERE! ZAKOR'S LOST CONTROL OF HIS... GHOSTS!
Y-YEAH!

ABRUPTLY THE LAW MOVES IN UPON THE TERRIFIED PAIR!
ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO... BACK INSIDE THERE! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
THERE'S A GHOST THERE... A GHOST GONE CRAZY!


LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS THE OFFICER MAKES HIS REPORT!
CAUGHT THESE TWO HOODS RED HANDED, ANDY! KILLED THEIR BOSS AND SOME MEDIUM!
NO, NO! THE GHOST KILLED THEM!
T-THE GHOST! H-HOW CAN IT BE ...I WAS ARRESTED FOR SPEEDING BEFORE I COULD GET THERE!

HOUR UPON HOUR, MAJA LISTENS TO THE HOODLUMS RAVE IN THEIR CELL!
ZAKOR DIRECTED THE GHOST TO KILL KELLER. W-WHY DID IT TURN ON HIM!
ZAKOR PLAYED WITH THINGS HE SHOULDN'T HAVE TOUCHED, RITCHIE!
CAN IT BE THAT A DEAD MAN'S SPIRIT ROSE SEEKING REVENGE?

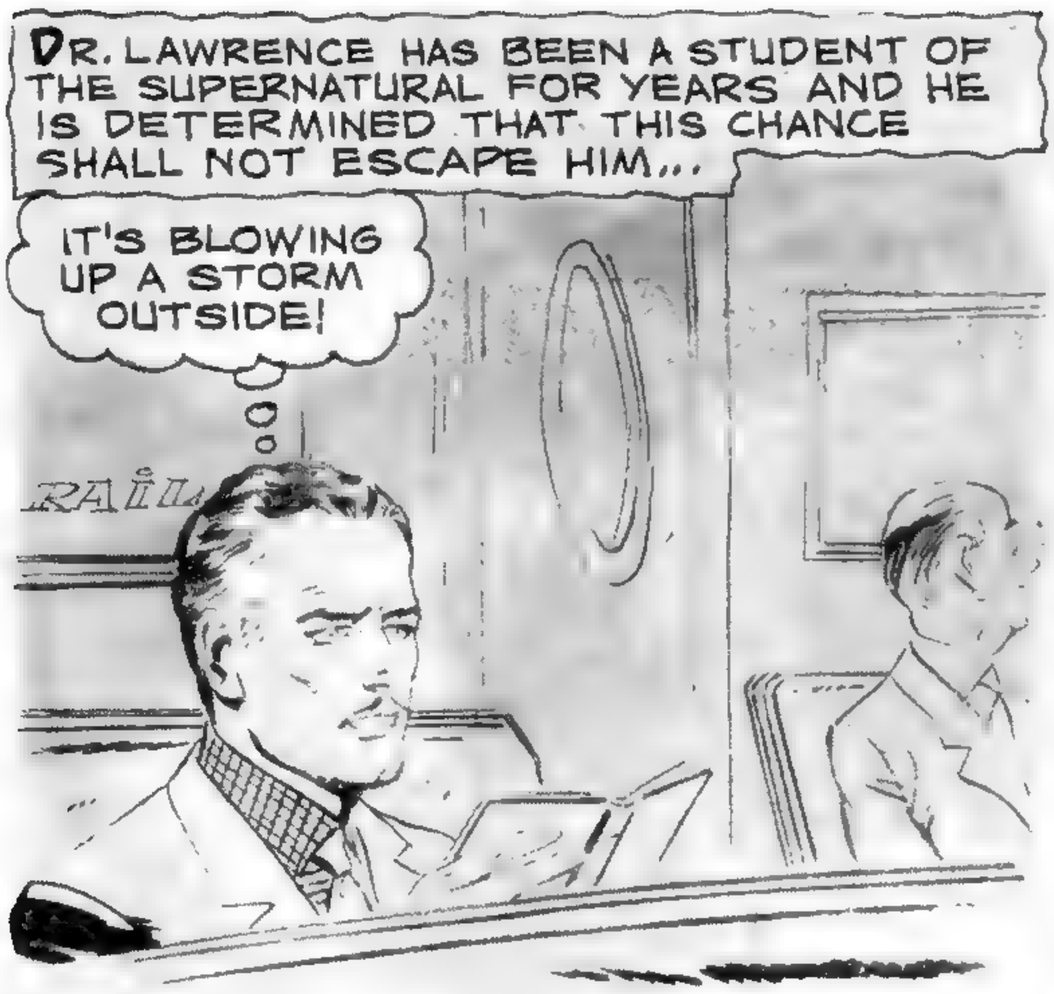

SOMEHOW... ZAKOR LURED A REAL GHOST FROM THE GRAVE! A-AND THE CREATURE... THE THING FROM THE DEAD WILL NOT REST NOW... IT'LL KILL ME JUST AS IT KILLED ZAKOR!

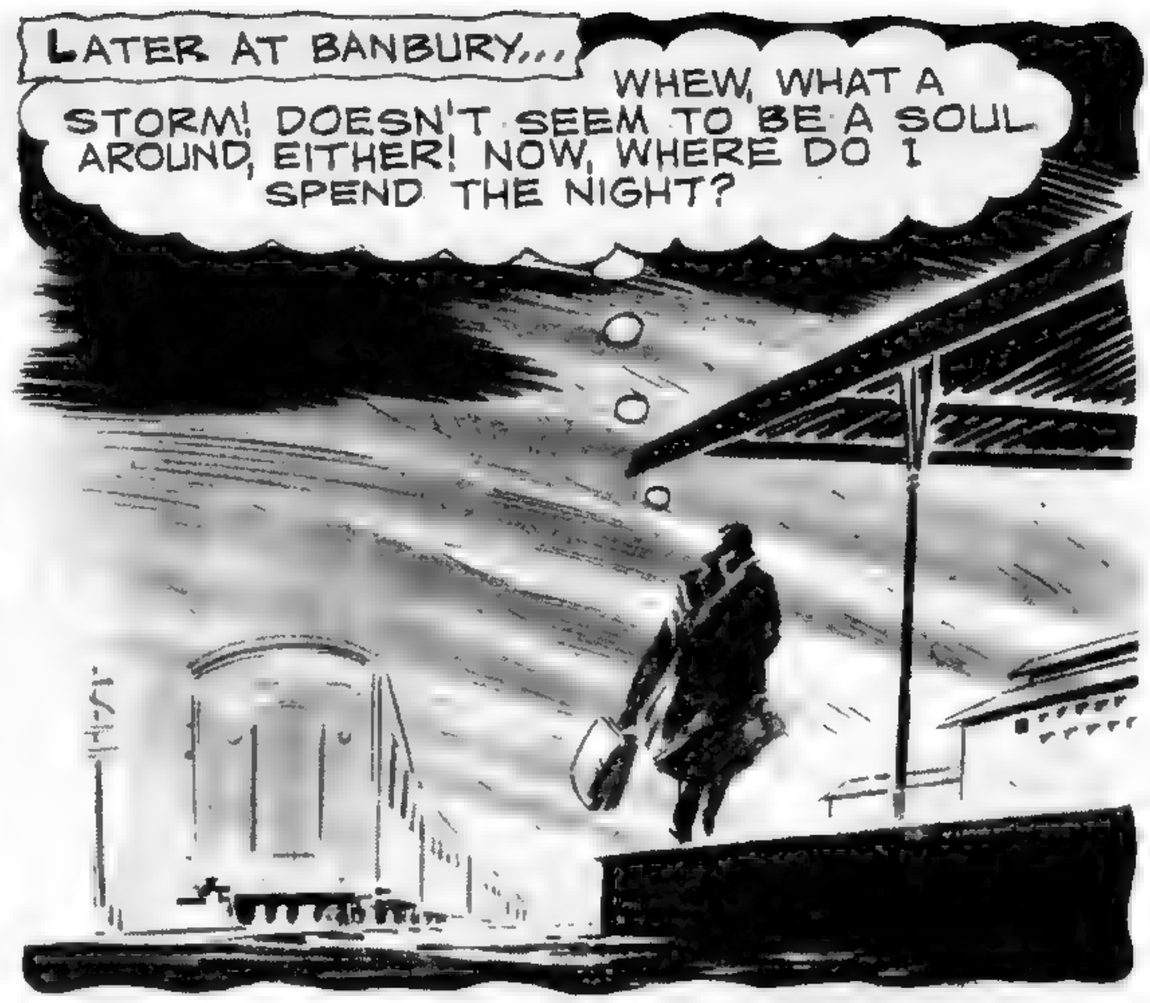


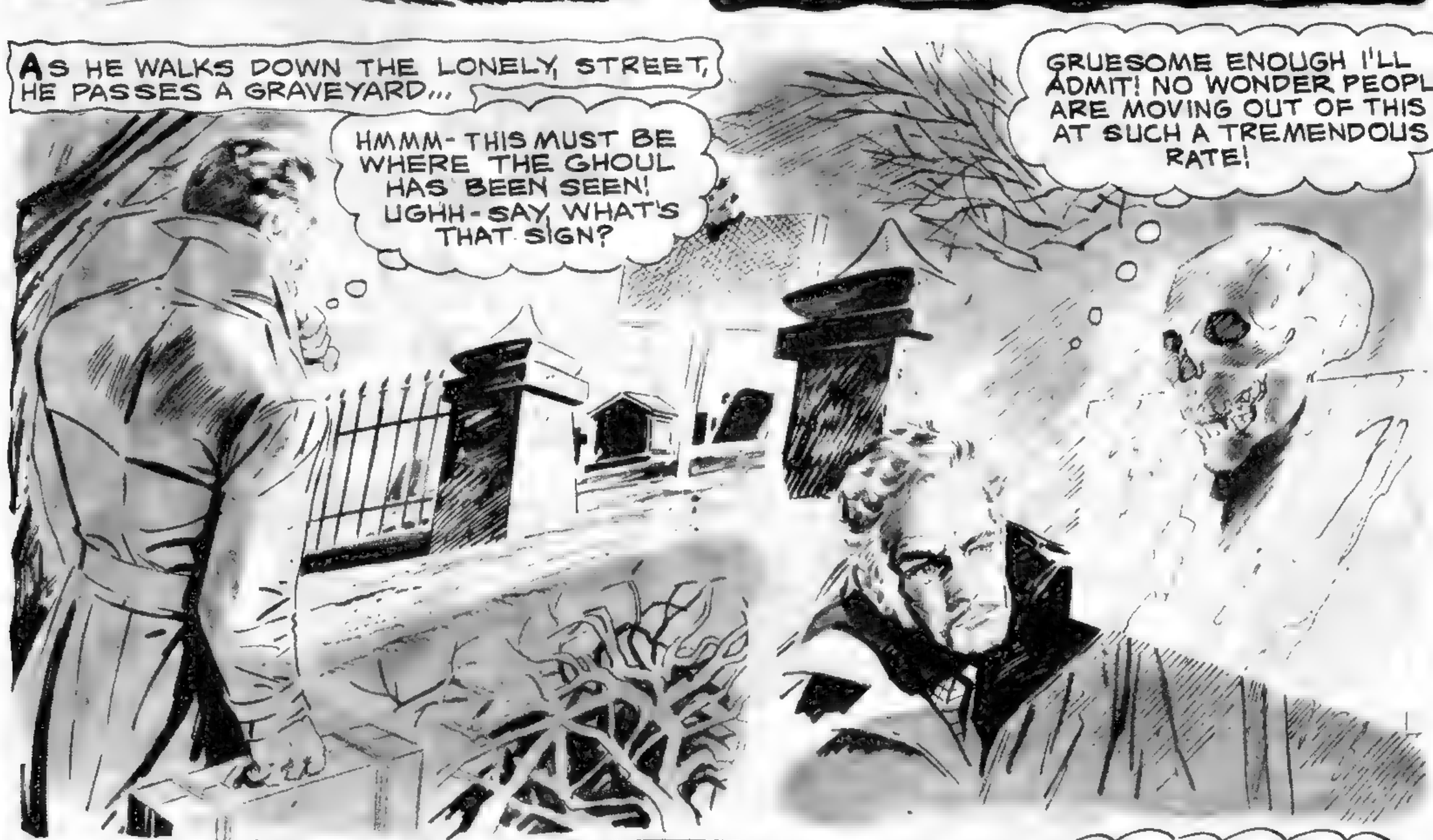
END

IT WASN'T HUMAN—OR WAS IT? THIS CREATURE OF THE NIGHT, THIS HORROR ESCAPED FROM A NIGHTMARE, THAT PROWLED AMID THE DARK TOMBS, ITS FANGS READY TO RIP AND TEAR ANYTHING THAT STOOD IN ITS PATH! DOCTOR TED LAWRENCE WANTED TO FIND OUT THE ANSWERS, SO HE WENT TO A FRIGHTENED TOWN AND TO SEEK OUT

# THE GHOUL


DR. LAWRENCE HAS BEEN A STUDENT OF THE SUPERNATURAL FOR YEARS AND HE IS DETERMINED THAT THIS CHANCE SHALL NOT ESCAPE HIM...
IT'S BLOWING UP A STORM OUTSIDE!


LATER AT BANBURY...
WHEW, WHAT A STORM! DOESN'T SEEM TO BE A SOUL AROUND, EITHER! NOW, WHERE DO I SPEND THE NIGHT?


AS HE WALKS DOWN THE LONELY STREET, HE PASSES A GRAVEYARD...
HMMM- THIS MUST BE WHERE THE GHOUL HAS BEEN SEEN! UGHH- SAY, WHAT'S THAT SIGN?
GRUESOME ENOUGH I'LL ADMIT! NO WONDER PEOPLE ARE MOVING OUT OF THIS AT SUCH A TREMENDOUS RATE!

HE FINDS A HOUSE NEARBY...
SURE, MISTER, I'LL RENT YOU A ROOM! YOU KNOW ABOUT THE GHOUL I SUPPOSE?
YES, I KNOW! THAT'S WHY I'M HERE! NOW IF I MAY SEE THE ROOM, PLEASE!
THE NEXT NIGHT HE GOES THE GRAVEYARD...
WELL, HERE'S WHERE I SEE FOR MYSELF! I SURE HOPE IT'S THE GHOUL'S NIGHT TO WALK!

SUDDENLY...
HEY, SOMEONE, OR SOMETHING, OVER THERE BY THAT GRAVE! IT C-CAN'T BE ANYTHING BUT THE GHOUL!
HE SEES A HORRIBLE, DROOLING MONSTER PAWING, FEVERISHLY AT A FRESH GRAVE...
IT IS THE GHOUL TRYING TO OPEN THAT GRAVE!
UGHH-NNNN-HUHHHHHH-
THOSE SOUNDS IT SEEMS ALMOST LIKE IT'S CRYING!
SUDDENLY...
OH-OH! IT HEARD ME I'VE FRIGHTENED IT AWAY FROM THE GRAVE!
UHHHHH-
SOMEWHAT SURPRISED BY THE TIMIDITY OF THE GHOUL, THE MAN BEGINS THE CHASE...
COME BACK, YOU! WHATEVER YOU ARE! I'M NOT GOING TO HURT YOU!
WANNNN-UNNNNN-GUUUUU-
IT'S RUNNING INTO THAT CHURCH! HMMM-
INSIDE...
NOW WHERE DID IT GET TO? BUT WAIT A MINUTE, HERE ARE FOOTPRINTS IN THE DUST! GOT TO BE HERE SOMEPLACE!

AFTER A MOMENT OF LISTENING, HE SPLASHES THE LIGHT OVER THE INTERIOR OF THE ROTTING CHAPEL!

THIS PLACE ISN'T EXACTLY A NERVE TONIC! BUT THAT THING SEEMS TO BE MORE AFRAID OF ME THAN I AM OF IT!

THEN, FROM OVERHEAD, THE GHOSTLY ECHOES OF A BELL...

THE CLOCK TOWER! IT MUST BE UP THERE! GOT TANGLED IN THE MECHANISM OR SOMETHING!

BONG BONG BONG

CAREFULLY HE ENTERS THE FETID STENCH OF THE BELL TOWER, HIS NOSE WRINKLING IN DISGUST AT THE ODOR THAT ASSAILS IT...

*UGH*—THAT SMELL! THIS IS WHERE THE THING LIVES, SURE ENOUGH!

STEALTHILY HE GOES UP THE STEPS...

GOT TO BE CAREFUL NOW! THIS THING COULD BE VERY DANGEROUS IF IT'S CORNERED! BUT I'VE GOT TO GO THROUGH WITH IT!

THE LIGHT FALLS SQUARELY ON THE DROOLING HORROR, BENT FORWARD LIKE AN APE...

UHHHH-GUUUUU-YUUOOO-

*UHH*—IT ISN'T HUMAN THAT'S FOR SURE! BUT IT DOES SEEM TO BE TRYING TO TALK!

WITH A SCREAM OF RAGE, THE THING RUSHES AT THE MAN, ITS EYES INFLAMED WITH HATE...

ARGGG-AGRRRRR!!!

YAAAAA- G-GOING TO ATTACK ME! THOSE F-FANGS WILL TEAR ME TO PIECES!

LASHING OUT FURIOUSLY IN SELF-DEFENSE, TED LAWRENCE FINDS TO HIS SURPRISE THAT HE IS MUCH STRONGER OF THE TWO...

INCREDIBLE, IT'S WEAK! SO WEAK IT CAN HARDLY STAND UP! HA-HA-IT WANTS TO HURT ME, BUT IT HASN'T GOT THE STRENGTH!

UHHHH-UNNGGG-

YES, THE POOR DEVIL ACTS AS THOUGH IT HAS BEEN STARVING TO DEATH! BUT HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE FOR A GHOUL — IN A GRAVEYARD?

OWWWWW-

THE GHOUL COLLAPSES...

IT MUST HAVE PASSED OUT FROM HUNGER! AND THAT MEANS THAT IT ISN'T A TRUE GHOUL AFTER ALL!

THERE-THAT SHOULD HOLD IT UNTIL I GET THE CAR I RENTED! WAIT-IT'S COMING TO!

GUUUHH-UHHIHUHUH-GAAANNN-

UHHHHHH-

TRYING TO TELL ME SOMETHING, ARE YOU? I'M SORRY, BUT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND A THING YOU SAY!

BUT I'VE GOT AN IDEA THAT YOU'RE HUNGRY! WELL IF YOU'RE A GOOD BOY, I MIGHT FEED YOU! EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT A GHOUL — YOU'RE WEIRD LOOKING!

UNNGAAHHH-

I'LL GET THE CAR NOW AND LOAD YOU IN THE BACK! THEN WE'RE GOING TO TAKE A NICE LONG DRIVE TO A SPOT WHERE I CAN STUDY YOU!

WRRRRRR-GAAAUUUU-

SHORTLY AFTERWARD, AS HE RETURNS WITH THE CAR...

WHAT A BREAK! IF I CAN ONLY KEEP THE THING ALIVE, I CAN DO A BOOK ON GHOULISM THAT WILL SET THE SCIENTIFIC WORLD ON ITS EAR!

YES, MY BEAUTY! YOU ARE GOING TO MAKE THE MONKEY MAN OF JAVA, AND THE SNOW BEAST OF TIBET LOOK LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A COMIC BOOK! YOU'RE MY KEY TO FAME!

QUICKLY HE LOADS THE DROOLING SUB-HUMAN THING INTO THE TRUNK OF THE CAR...

A GOOD THING I RENTED THAT FARMHOUSE IN THE HILLS ALONG TIME AGO, WHEN I WAS STUDYING APES! THE CAGES WILL COME IN HANDY!

SO DR. LAWRENCE SETS OFF THROUGH THE WILD NIGHT!

IT'S A LONG DRIVE TO THE FARM, BUT AT LEAST IT'S IN DESOLATE COUNTRY AND THERE'S NOT MUCH DANGER OF BEING DISTURBED!

FINALLY, HE REACHES THE FARMHOUSE MILES FROM ANY OTHER HABITATION...

HERE AT LAST! NOW TO GET THIS CREATURE INTO THE HOUSE! SO FAR IT HASN'T GIVEN ME ANY TROUBLE, AND I HOPE IT DOESN'T START NOW...

IN YOU GO, FRIEND, AND I'LL SEE THAT YOU GET FED! THEN I'M GOING TO FIND OUT EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU! MAYBE WE CAN EVEN WORK OUT SOME SORT OF A MUTUAL LANGUAGE!

GUUUUUUU?

BUT JUST AS HE IS ABOUT TO PUSH THE GHOUL INTO THE CAGE, SOMETHING HAPPENS...

ALL RIGHT NOW, IN- AHHHHH-M-MY HEAD! SPINNING! I FEEL SO...

HE KNOWS WHAT IS HAPPENING TO HIM...

MY EPILEPSY! I-I'M HAVING ANOTHER SEIZURE! OH, NO- I M-MUSTN'T! NOT NOW! I- UHHHHHHHHH-

URRRRR-

AND DR. LAWRENCE GOES REELING DOWN INTO A BOTTOMLESS POOL OF DARKNESS! HIS LIPS FLECKED BY FOAM, HIS LIMBS TWITCHING IN THE AGONY OF THE EPILEPTIC FIT! AND THE GHOUL BEGINS TO MOVE TOWARD HIM...

UHHAAA?

THE MAN IS UNCONSCIOUS- BUT FINALLY HIS BRAIN BEGINS TO FUNCTION AGAIN! THEN...

OHHH-SO WEAK! W-WHAT? I'M IN THE CAGE!

GURRR- ARRGUU-

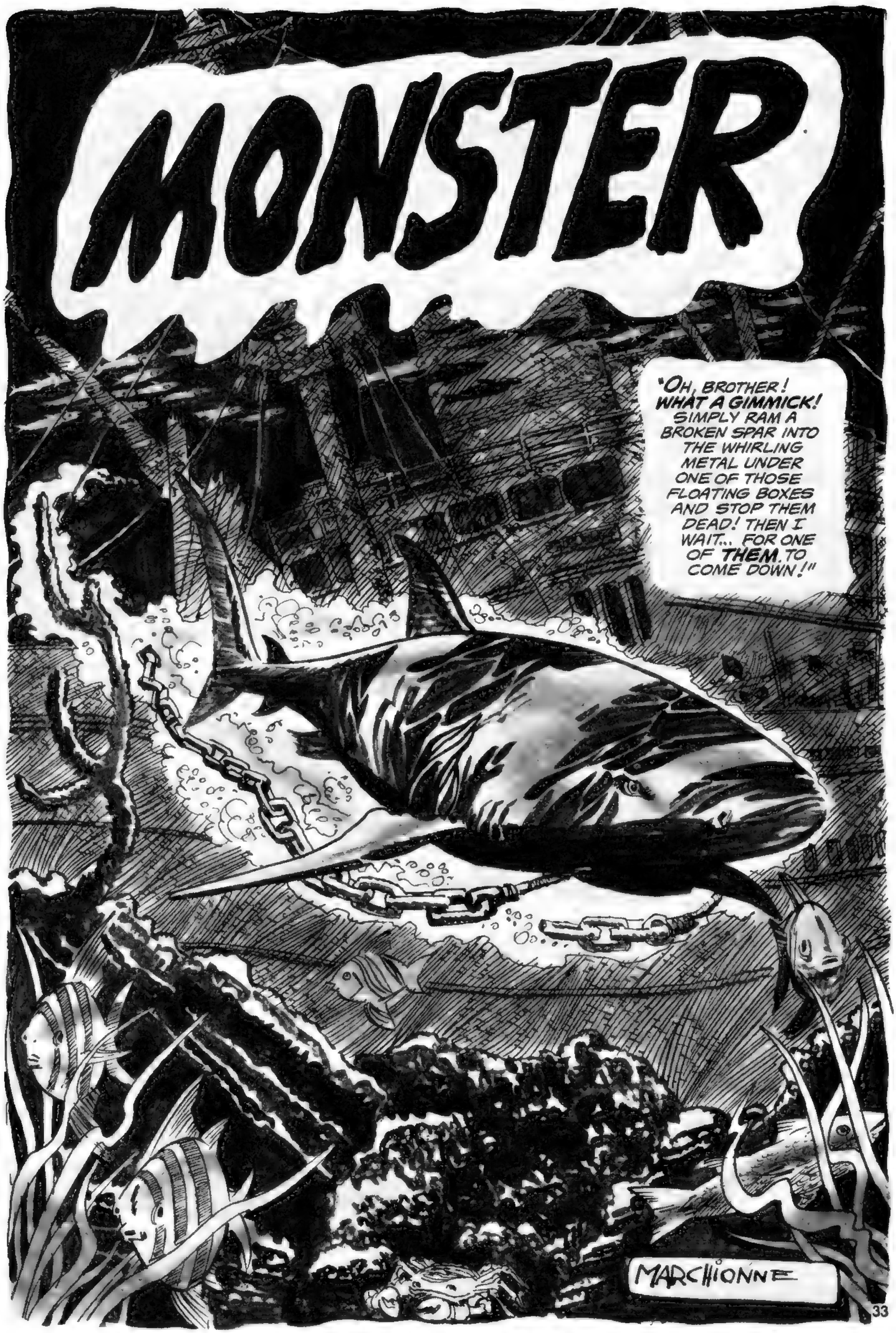
YAAAAAA-I'M IN THE CAGE AND IT-IT'S LAUGHING AT ME! AND I'M SO WEAK, SO TERRIBLY WEAK! BUT NOW I WONDER WHAT IT WILL DO TO ME?

IT-IT SEEMS MORE INTELIGENT NOW! SMARTER THAN IT WAS! ALMOST AS THOUGH NOW IT IS GOING TO STUDY ME! YES-THAT'S IT! I'M IN ITS POWER! AAAHHHHHH-

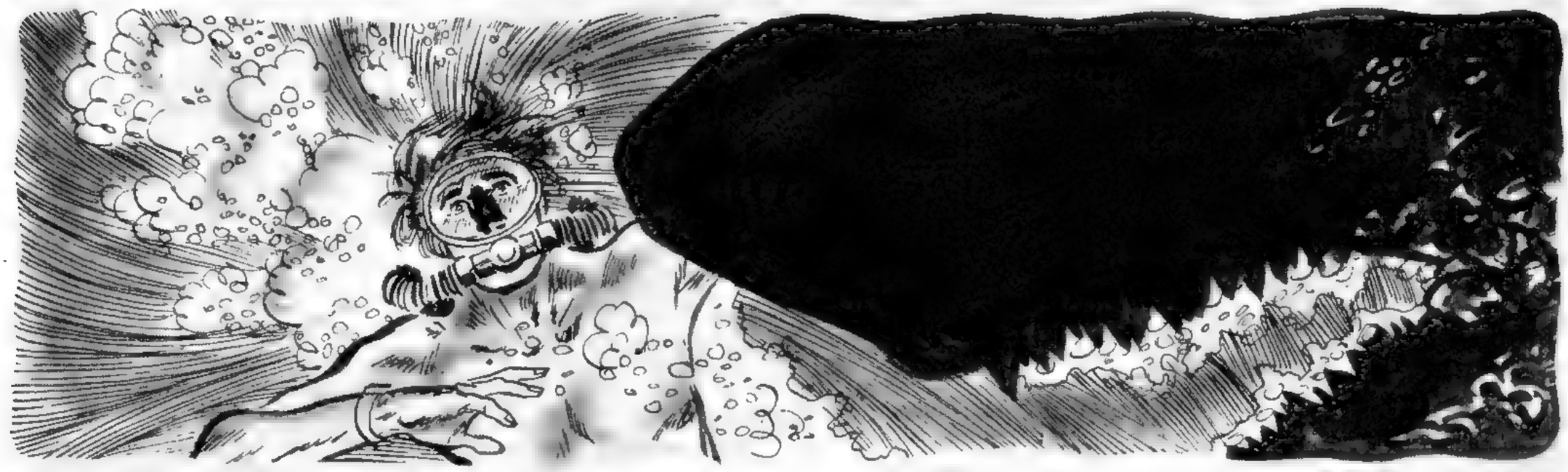
GUNNN- AHHHHH- (DROOL) GAAAA- (CHUCKLE) AHHHHH-

AND, AS THE GLOATING FACE OF THE THING CAME CLOSER, ALL DR. LAWRENCE COULD DO WAS TO SCREAM- AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN...

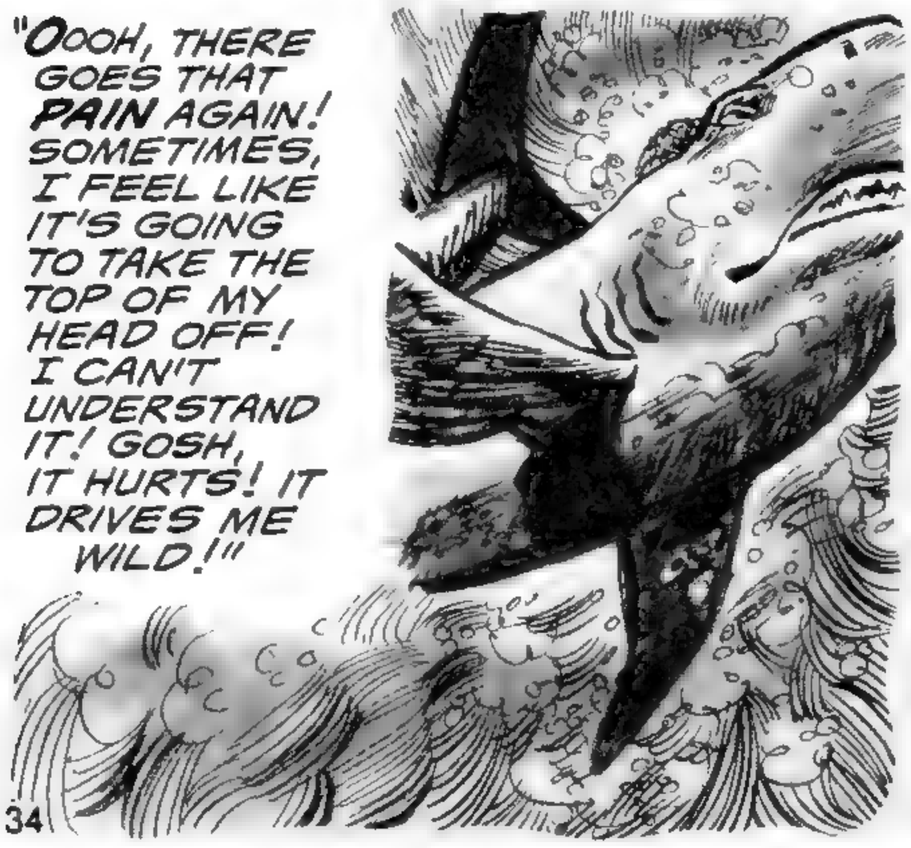
THE END


MONSTER
"OH, BROTHER! WHAT A GIMMICK! SIMPLY RAM A BROKEN SPAR INTO THE WHIRLING METAL UNDER ONE OF THOSE FLOATING BOXES AND STOP THEM DEAD! THEN I WAIT... FOR ONE OF THEM TO COME DOWN!"
MARCHIONNE

"THEY'RE **PALE** AND **SOFT** AND THEY EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE TWO EYES, THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE ANYTHING I'VE SEEN AROUND HERE! THIS ONE LOOKS GOOD AND JUICY!"

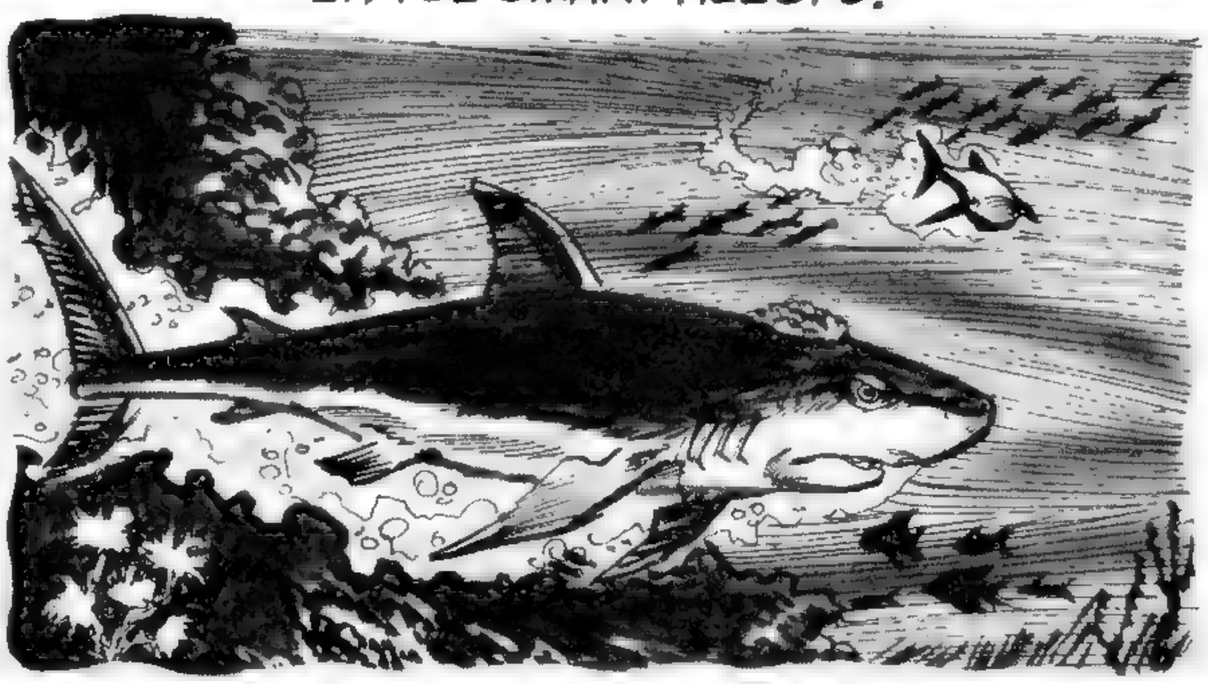


"BOY, THESE PALE, SOFT THINGS SURE TASTE **GOOD**... BETTER THAN ANYTHING I CAN CATCH DOWN HERE!"



"OOOH, THERE GOES THAT **PAIN** AGAIN! SOMETIMES, I FEEL LIKE IT'S GOING TO TAKE THE TOP OF MY HEAD OFF! I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! GOSH, IT HURTS! IT DRIVES ME WILD!"

"**WHEW! IT'S GONE!** COMES AND GOES... JUST LIKE THAT! BUT I'M OKAY NOW! CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT... OH-OH! HERE COMES ONE OF THOSE LITTLE SMART ALECTS!"



"A SWEET, LITTLE RACKET THEY'VE GOT! THEY CAN STICK TO YOU LIKE GLUE AND FREE LOAD ON YOU WITHOUT DOING ANY WORK I'LL JUST GIVE THIS RUNT THE BUMS RUSH!"

"WHAT A WORLD! NOBODY HERE SEEMS TO HAVE A THOUGHT IN HIS HEAD EXCEPT TO EAT, FIGHT AND RUN FOR COVER! I SEE SO MANY THINGS THAT MAKE ME CURIOUS!

"NOW, TAKE THESE WOODEN CONTRAPTIONS THAT I OCCASIONALLY FIND! ONE TIME I SAW ONE DRIFT DOWN FROM ABOVE! AND IT WAS PACKED WITH THOSE PALE SOFT THINGS I'VE LEARNED TO TRAP!"

"I TAKE THESE THINGS TO A CAVE AND ARRANGE THEM SO I CAN LOOK AT THEM WITHOUT BEING DISTURBED BY THOSE BLUNDERING MORONS AROUND HERE!"

"I'M GETTING HUNGRY AGAIN! CAN'T HELP THAT, I GUESS! I'M A PRETTY BIG FELLOW WITH A BIG APPETITE! I THINK I'LL BAG ME ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE PALE SOFT THINGS!"

"THERE IT IS... THE AREA WHERE THE LIGHT IS STRONG FROM ABOVE! NOW I'LL DRAG OUT THIS BOX AND OPEN IT UP... THIS SEEMS TO ATTRACT THE PALE SOFT THINGS! IT NEVER FAILS TO WORK!"

"I'LL LET THEM PLAY WITH THE METAL A BIT, BEFORE I COME UP BEHIND THEM! NOW! I RUSH THEM OFF... AND... WOW! WHAT'S THIS?"

"A PALE SOFT 'SHE'! IT CAN'T BE NOTHING ELSE! I'VE ALWAYS FIGURED THEY EXISTED! I WON'T EAT HER! I'LL ADD HER TO MY COLLECTION!..."

"OW! THAT CHARACTER CARRIED A STINGER! LUCKY I SAW IT AND TWISTED AWAY IN TIME! IT WOULD'VE GOTTEN A VITAL SPOT INSTEAD OF A FLIPPER! WELL, HE NEVER GOT ANOTHER CHANCE!"

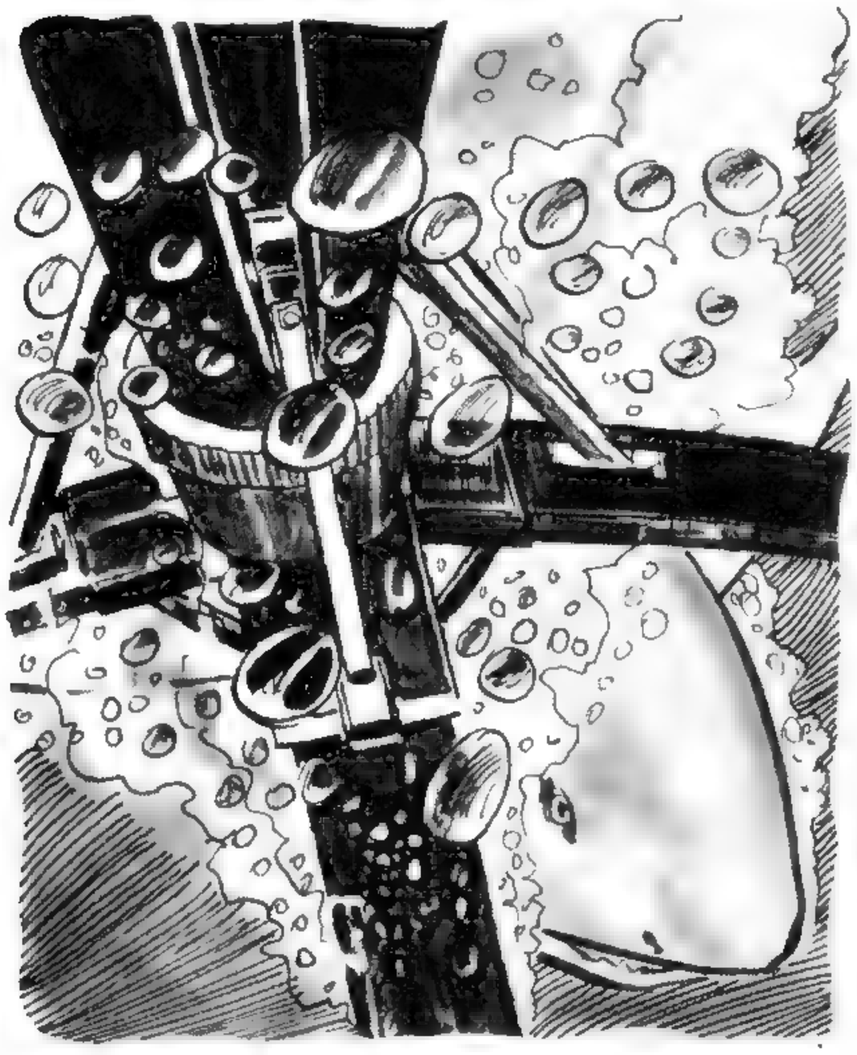
"THAT FEMALE IS HEADING UP... UP TO THE GREEN ROOF... IF SHE GOES BEYOND IT SHE'LL DISAPPEAR! BUT SHE WON'T GET AWAY! I'M FASTER THAN SHE IS!"

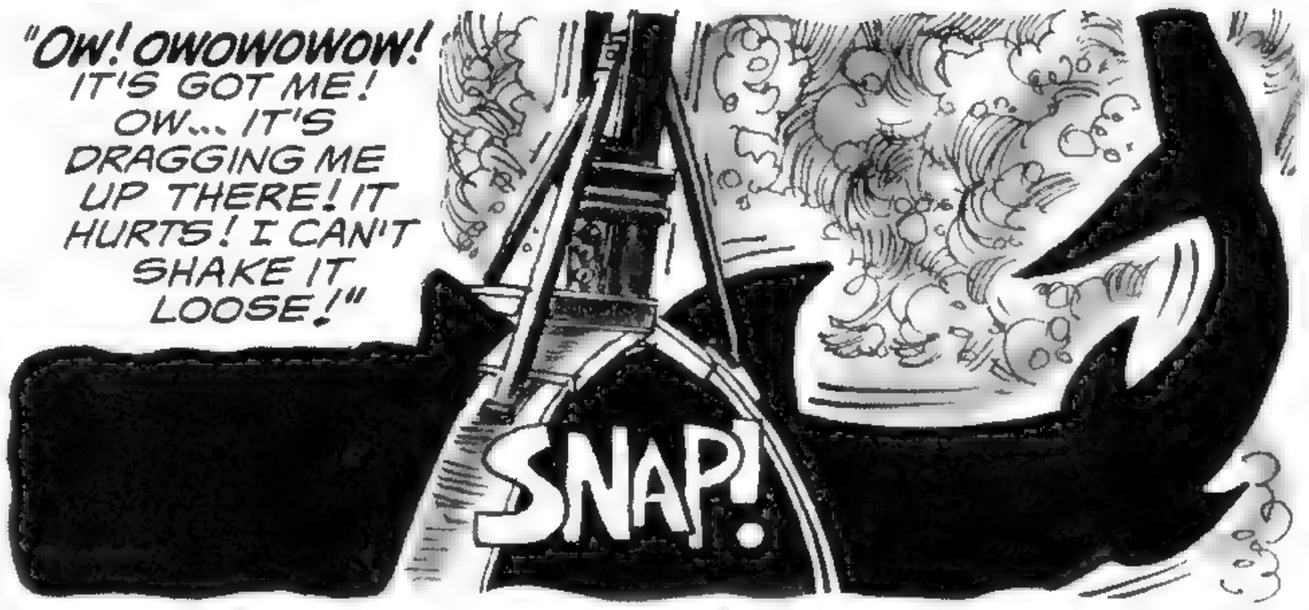
"GOT HER! BOY, THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THE WAY THEY LOOK AT ME WHEN I NAIL THEM THAT OFTEN MAKES ME WONDER... IF THEY'RE ABLE TO THINK... LIKE ME, I MEAN! THEY'RE CERTAINLY DIFFERENT THAN THE OTHERS AROUND HERE!"

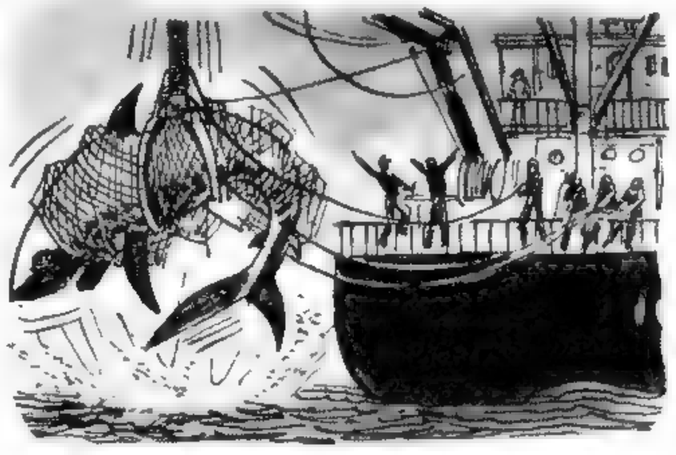
"FOR SOME REASON THEY CAN'T LIVE DOWN HERE! TOO BAD! SHE'S GONE LIMP ALREADY! I'M GOING TO PUT HER IN MY COLLECTION!"

"THERE! SHE SURE BRIGHTENS UP THE WHOLE WORKS! I HAD TO PLACE STONES ON HER TO KEEP HER FROM DRIFTING OFF!"

"I CAN STUDY MY COLLECTION FOREVER! IT MAKES ME THINK... ABOUT THE MANY THINGS I SEE AND YET DON'T UNDERSTAND! I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE TO LEARN EVERYTHING ON MY OWN HOOK!"

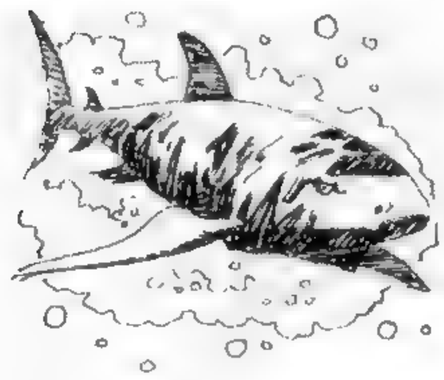

"WHAT'S ABOVE THE GREEN ROOF? I'VE POKED MY NOSE THROUGH IT A FEW TIMES AND I CAN'T SEE HOW THE PALE THINGS CAN KEEP FROM GAGGING UP THERE! HEY! THERE'S SOMETHING COMING DOWN FROM THE GREEN ROOF NOW!"


"OW! OWOWOWOW! IT'S GOT ME! OW... IT'S DRAGGING ME UP THERE! IT HURTS! I CAN'T SHAKE IT LOOSE!"
SNAP!


"(COUGH!) (GASP!) I'VE BEEN LIFTED ABOVE THE GREEN ROOF! I'M ALMOST BLINDED... I CAN HARDLY BREATHE... (COUGH!) (GAAASSPP!)"

EASY, MEN, EASY... THAT'S IT... LOWER HIM INTO THE TANK! YOU MEN... WITHOUT THE PROTECTIVE COVERING...

"OH, WHAT A RELIEF! THAT DEVIL'S TOOL IS GONE AND I'M FREE... TO SOME EXTENT ANYWAY! THERE ARE WALLS ON EVERY SIDE OF ME... WALLS I CAN'T SEE! I'VE BRUISED MY NOSE BUMPING INTO THEM! BEYOND THEM, LOOKING AT ME, ARE A SCHOOL OF THE PALE THINGS!"



BIG FELLOW, ISN'T HE! I'D SAY HE'S PERFECT FOR STUDY!

THE GEIGER COUNTER'S RACING LIKE MAD, SIR! THIS BABY HAS BEEN IN THE H-BOMB ZONE!

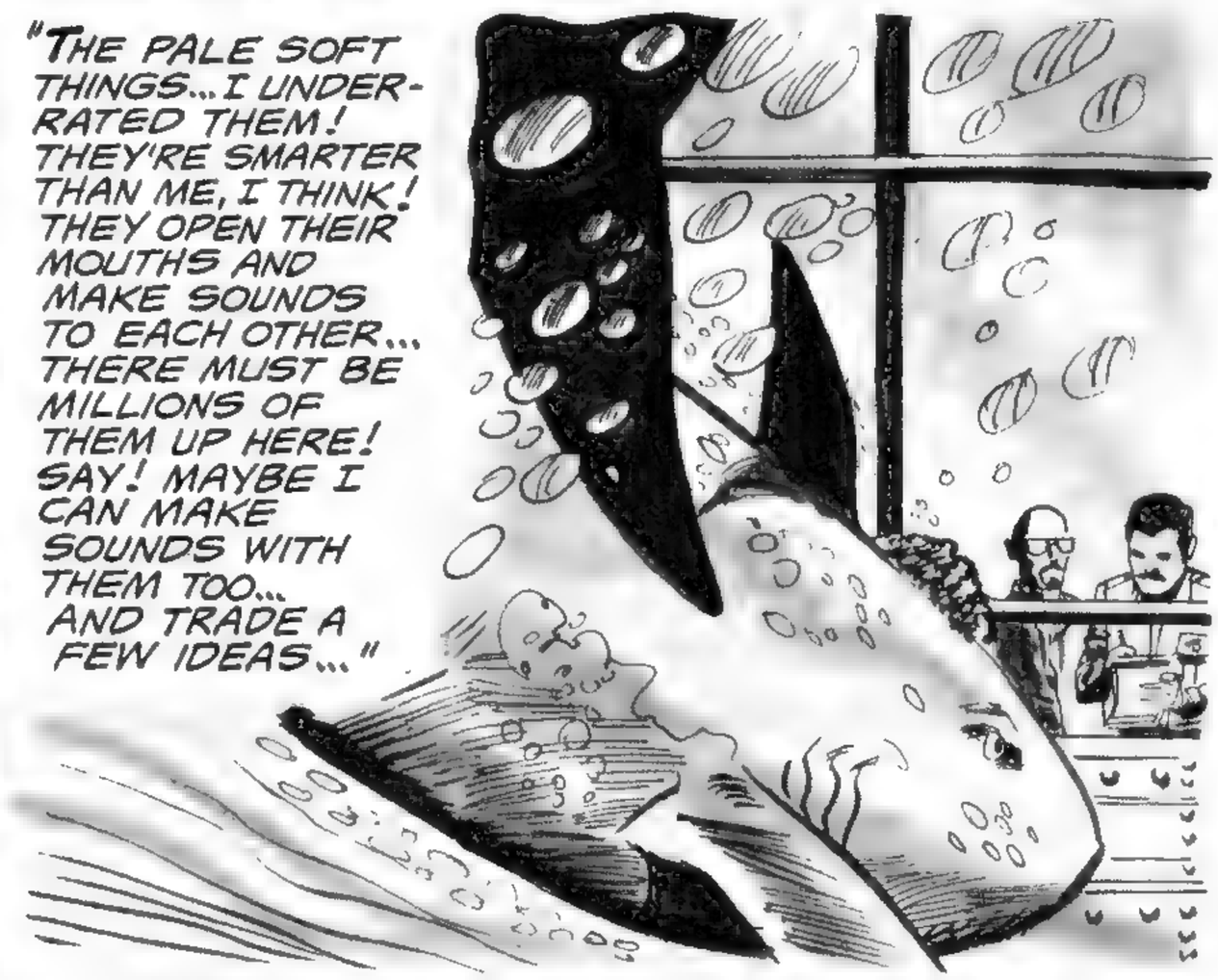
HEY, CASEY! GET A LOAD OF THAT NIGHTMARE WITH FINS!

CLIK! CLIK! CLIK! CLIK! CLIK!

SAY, I WONDER IF THAT MONSTER CAN BE THE BIG BOGEY THE ISLANDERS HAVE BEEN YAKKIN' ABOUT-- YOU KNOW THE STORY...

NAW, THAT'S STRICTLY GOONA-GOONA STUFF! THERE AIN'T NO SUCH THING AS A FISH WHAT THINKS LIKE A MAN!

"THE PALE SOFT THINGS... I UNDER-RATED THEM! THEY'RE SMARTER THAN ME, I THINK! THEY OPEN THEIR MOUTHS AND MAKE SOUNDS TO EACH OTHER... THERE MUST BE MILLIONS OF THEM UP HERE! SAY! MAYBE I CAN MAKE SOUNDS WITH THEM TOO... AND TRADE A FEW IDEAS..."



THAT TUMOR... I'VE MADE SOME FANTASTIC SPECULATIONS ABOUT IT--

SO I'VE HEARD, DOCTOR! YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT'S A TUMOR... IS THAT IT?

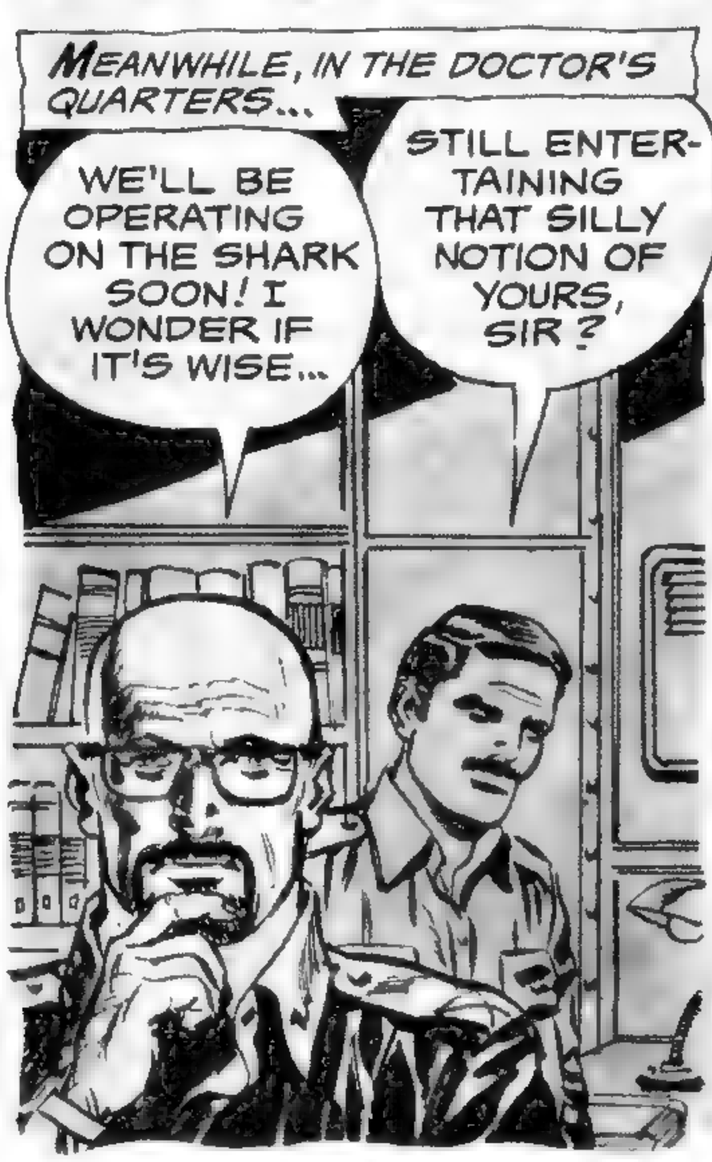
WE'VE HAULED NUMEROUS SPECIMENS SUCH AS THIS ONE, FROM CONTAMINATED WATERS, SIR... AND, WE'VE MADE SOME UNIQUE DISCOVERIES... THIS TUMOR COULD BE AN ORGAN WITH A SPECIFIC FUNCTION--

YOU'LL GET YOUR CHANCE TO FIND OUT! I'M GOING TO HAVE IT REMOVED FOR STUDY!

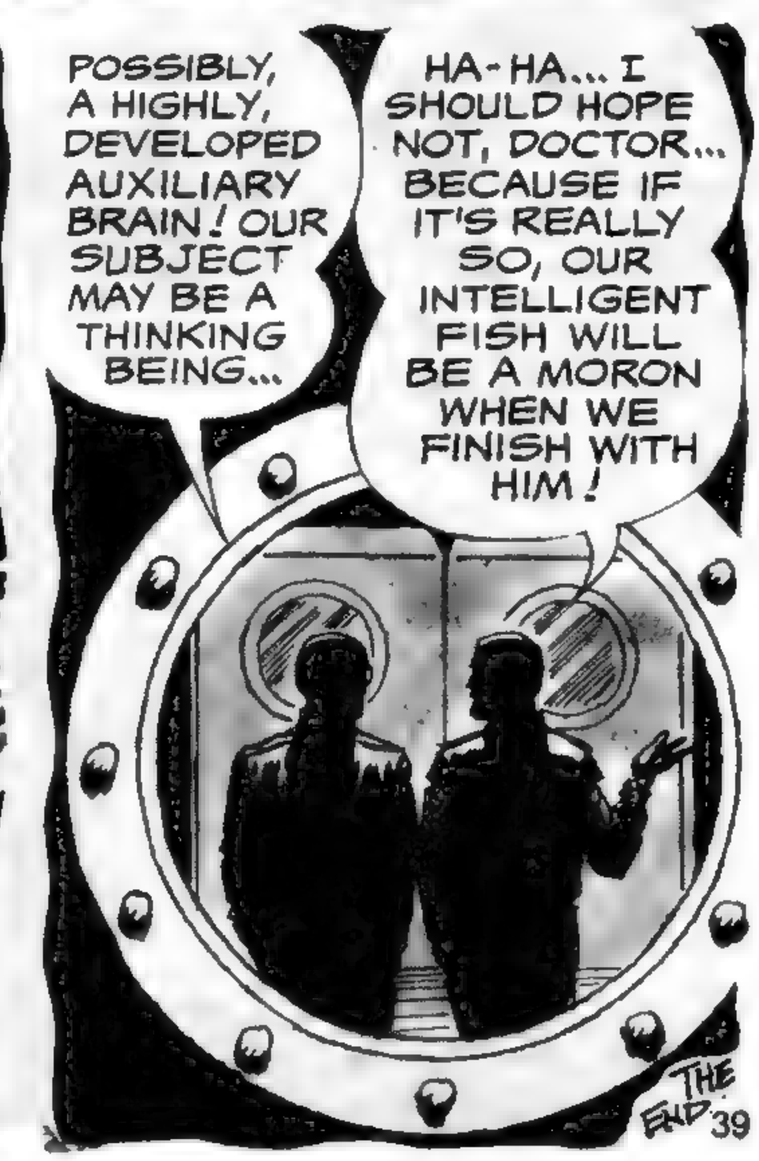
"WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO... SPIN LIKE A TOP TO MAKE THEM UNDERSTAND ME? I'D BETTER THINK OF SOMETHING FAST! THESE DEVILS HAVE MEANS TO KILL ME! HEY! SOMETHING'S GOING ON UP THERE... OVER MY HEAD..."

THE DOC SAYS POUR IN THE "SLEEP JUICE" AND THAT'S WHAT I'M DOING!
YOU'RE LUCKY! I GOTTA GO DOWN THERE AND MAKE SURE THIS MICKEY FINN HAS DONE IT'S JOB...

"I DON'T LIKE THIS! WHAT ARE THEY UP TO! EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE CLOUDING UP... HEY YOU UP THERE! YOU CAN'T KEEP ME IN HERE, YOU UNDERSTAND? LET ME OUT! LET ME OUT! LET ME OUT, YOU DEVILS!"
LOOK OUT!
"I'M GETTING WEAKER... CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY... MY HEAD IS POUNDING AND MY EYES ARE GROWING HEAVY... DON'T KILL ME, DO YOU HEAR? IT'S NOT RIGHT... IT'S NOT RI...."
THE ANESTHETIC IS TAKING AFFECT! TELL THE DIVER TO DOUBLE CHECK!
YES, SIR!


MEANWHILE, IN THE DOCTOR'S QUARTERS...
WE'LL BE OPERATING ON THE SHARK SOON! I WONDER IF IT'S WISE...
STILL ENTERTAINING THAT SILLY NOTION OF YOURS, SIR?

YOU'VE READ MY NOTES! SUPPOSE THAT TUMOR ON HIS HEAD... IS NOT A TUMOR... BUT...
BUT WHAT, DOCTOR? WHAT DO YOU THINK WE'LL FIND WHEN WE CUT INTO IT?

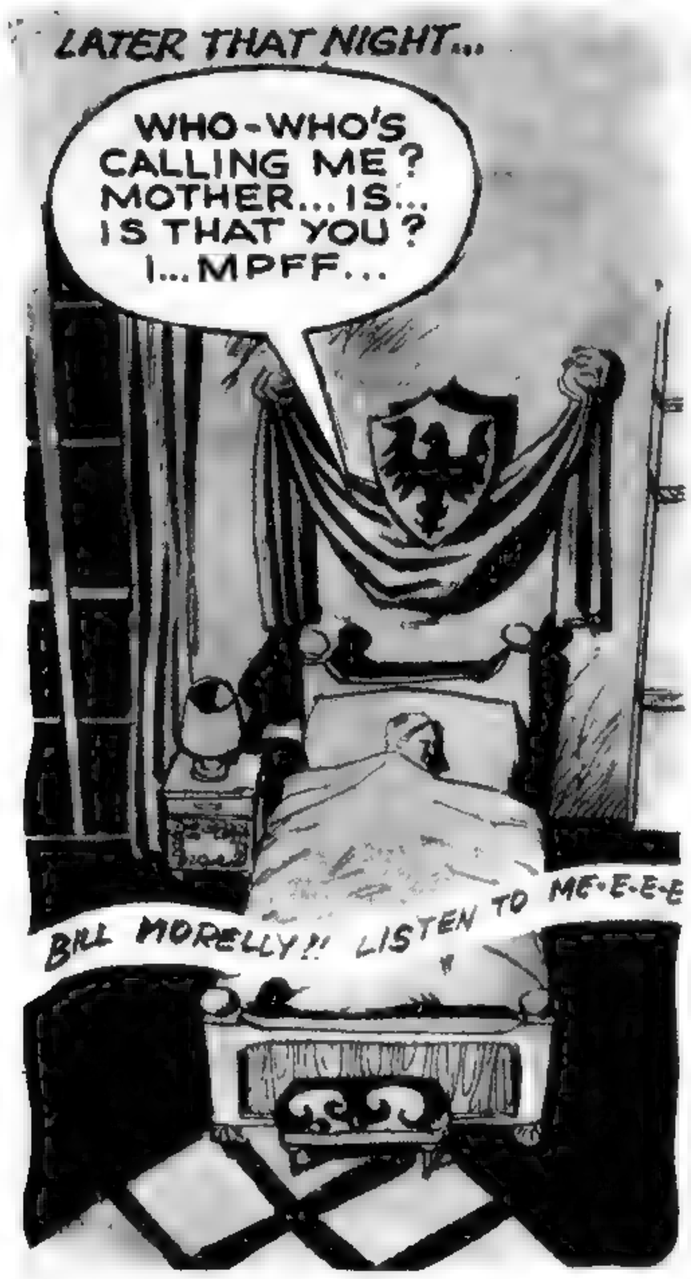

POSSIBLY, A HIGHLY, DEVELOPED AUXILIARY BRAIN! OUR SUBJECT MAY BE A THINKING BEING...
HA-HA... I SHOULD HOPE NOT, DOCTOR... BECAUSE IF IT'S REALLY SO, OUR INTELLIGENT FISH WILL BE A MORON WHEN WE FINISH WITH HIM!
THE END

CHOP THEIR HEADS OFF

BILL MORLEY HAD JUST INHERITED THE SMALL CHATEAU OF HIS GRANDPARENTS IN ITALY...

IT'S BEAUTIFUL, CARLO, BUT WHO OWNS THAT HORRIBLE LOOKING CASTLE NEXT TO MY PROPERTY?

NO ONE, SIGNOR, MORLEY... IT IS UNTENANTED... EXCEPT BY THE GHOST OF LADY ANN... ONCE BEHEADED BY THE EVIL DUKE OF MORO!


LATER THAT NIGHT...
WHO-WHO'S CALLING ME? MOTHER...IS... IS THAT YOU? I...MPFF...
BILL MORELLY!! LISTEN TO ME-E-E-E

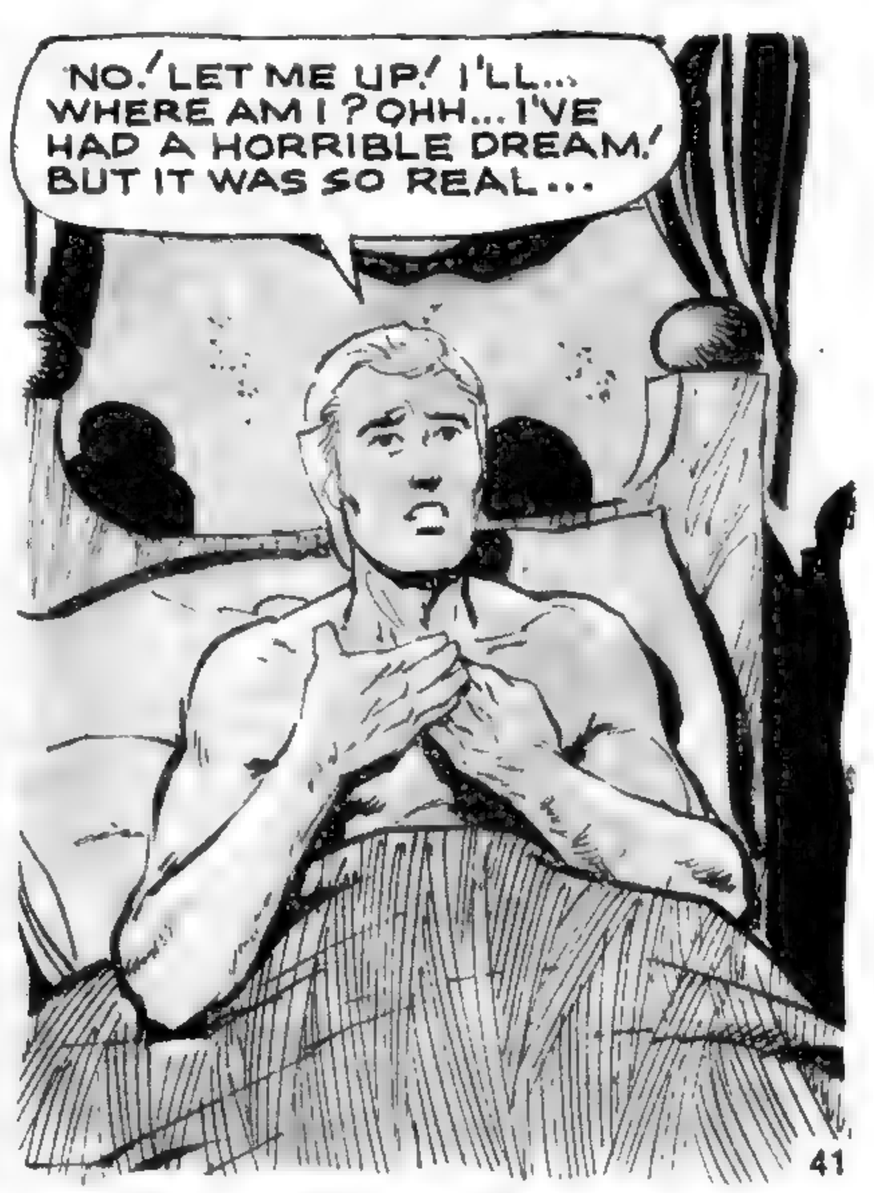
SLEEP... YOUR INNER MIND SHALL BE OPEN TO ME! LISTEN... LISTEN TO MY PLEA!

THE VOICE PENETRATED BILL'S SUBCONSCIOUS...HE FOUND HIMSELF GLIDING AFTER A GIRL IN WHITE TOWARDS THE OMINOUS MORO CASTLE...
HASTEN QUICKLY! HE HAS CALLED AND I MUST OBEY!

AH... SO YOU HAVE AGAIN KEPT YOUR VOW! TAKE HER, DOGS! BRING HER TO ME SO THAT I MAY WRACK MY EVIL UPON HER! SEIZE HER COMPANION AS WELL!
N-NO! WHAT IS THIS? WHERE AM I?

SPARE US, OH MIGHTY GUARDIAN! DO NOT REPEAT YOUR EVIL DEED AGAIN!
THIS IS CRAZY! LET US UP! HELP!

YOUR FRIGHTENED SHRIEKS CANNOT MOVE ME! I AM THE OPPOSITE OF LIFE! HA! HA!
HAG!


NO! LET ME UP! I'LL... WHERE AM I? OHH... I'VE HAD A HORRIBLE DREAM! BUT IT WAS SO REAL...

EACH DAY THE DREAM RECURRED.. AND EACH TIME HE FOUGHT TO FORGET IT...BUT IT WAS GROWING STEADILY WORSE!
UNABLE TO REST, THE YOUNG AMERICAN QUESTIONED THE FRIGHTENED VILLAGERS ABOUT THE DREAM...
ALL WE KNOW IS THAT THE GIRL WAS THE LAST OWNER OF MORRO CASTLE! NOW, LEAVE US IN PEACE!
THEN MORELY EXAMINED THE RECORDS IN THE ANCIENT LIBRARY!
HERE IT IS. LADY ANN POLERA... AND HER FATHER WERE MURDERED BY THE BLACK DUKE OF MALBA...
THE PAST HAS COME BACK TO ME IN MY DREAMS! THE ANSWER MUST LIE IN MORO CASTLE!
THAT NIGHT BILL AND AN OLD VILLAGER ENTERED THE BLACK FOREBODING CASTLE...
LOOK! A SECRET PANEL... AHH! TOMES OF WRITING!
THE CURSE OF THE DAMNED IS UPON THEM! LET US NOT TARRY!
CAST OFF YOUR HOPES, FOR THE EVIL MONSTER HAS MURDERED US ALL! I, THE LAST, MY LADY'S SERVANT... ALAS... SHE HAS BEEN BEHEADED WITH HER FATHER... AND NOW SHE ROAMS THE GROUNDS FOR VENGEANCE!
MORO CASTLE
SO, THE DREAM WAS REAL IN SUBSTANCE AFTER ALL! IT SAYS THAT THE EVIL DUKE CAN ONLY BE BEATEN IN PEACETIME!
YOU ARE CRAZY! YOU BREAK OFF A BRANCH OF THAT OLIVE TREE, THE SYMBOL OF PEACE! I LEAVE YOU NOW!

BILL MORELY WAS NOT CRAZY IN THE WAY THE OLD VILLAGER THOUGHT. HE HAD A FANTASTIC PLAN TO AID THE BEAUTIFUL APPARITION, FOR HE WAS HOPELESSLY IN LOVE WITH HER. THAT NEXT NIGHT...

PAST SLIMY WALLS AND FLICKERING TORCHES HE SPED... UNTIL HE ENTERED A VAST UNDER-GROUND CAVERN...

BILL MORELY WAS SOON TO FIND OUT... FOR THE MINUTE HE TOUCHED THE GROUND OF THE CAVERN...

THE MYSTERIOUS FLUID BUBBLED UP TOWARDS HIS EYES..IN ANOTHER SECOND IT WOULD BE OVER, BUT...

TAKE MY HAND! I CAN SAVE YOU, FOR ONLY THE DOOMED HAVE POWER OVER THE PIT OF DEATH!

I'D LIKE A FEW EXPLANATIONS OF THESE WEIRD INCIDENTS!

THERE IS NO TIME... LOOK! THE SLAVES OF THE MIGHTY ONE APPROACH!

THE HEADLESS KNIGHTS! WHO ARE THEY? WHAT IS ALL THIS?

RUN! FLEE FROM THEM!

MORELY, HOWEVER, DIDN'T WAIT TO FIND OUT! TUGGING AT THE SLENDER FORM BEHIND HIM, HE PULLED HER INTO THE DARKEST RECESSES...

OH! THEY CANNOT BE TRICKED!

THAT PILE OF SKULLS! NOW... I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND!

QUICKLY SUBDUED, THE PAIR WERE LED BEFORE THE GIANT BLACK-COWLED FIGURE!

BRING THEM TO ME... AND BE GONE! THEIR HOUR OF DEATH IS AT HAND!

LET GO! DON'T YOU DARE HARM HER!

ONE OF THE HEADLESS SLAVES RELEASED MORELY WHO DREW HIS SWORD AND CHARGED THE FIGURE IN BLACK!

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DO THE SAME EVIL ACT UPON LADY ANN AGAIN!

FOOL! SHE MUST PLAY OUT HER PART FOR ETERNITY AS MUST I!

THE SOUNDS OF THAT TREMENDOUS STRUGGLE REVERBERATED THROUGHOUT THE HALLS OF THE CASTLE... THEN BILL MADE HIS MOVE...

BACK TO WHATEVER HELL YOU CAME FROM, MONSTER! THIS IS THE TALISMAN THAT WILL DAMN YOU!

AN OLIVE BRANCH! DO NOT HOLD IT BEFORE MY GAZE! NO! NO!

I THOUGHT SO! YOU'RE THE BLACK DUKE OF MALBA... THE EVIL WRETCH THAT PUT ALL THE PEOPLE OF THIS CASTLE TO THE SWORD!

FOOL! FOOL! DO NOT UNCLOAK ME!

I AM *DEATH!!* THE SOUL OF THE EVIL MALBA RESIDES WITHIN ME IN COMPOSITE WITH OTHER SINNERS! THE HEADLESS ONES WERE THOSE HE CONQUERED TO SERVE HIM AS HE MUST SERVE ME! GO NOW... AND FORGET! THE CURSE OF MORO CASTLE IS OVER!

YOU SHALL FORGET IN TIME! FAREWELL BILL MORELEY...

A BLINDING FLASH... THEN BLACKNESS! AND WHEN BILL MORELY AWOKE HE WAS OUTSIDE MORO CASTLE, HIS FACE CRADLED IN A VERY BEAUTIFUL GIRLS LAP!

WH-WHAT HAPPENED? WHO ARE YOU?

I WAS DRIVING TO THE CASTLE WHEN I SAW YOU LYING HERE IN DELIRIUM! ARE YOU HURT?

N-NO! I MUST HAVE HAD A NIGHTMARE AND WALKED HERE! BUT... YOUR FACE... IT'S THAT OF LADY ANN!

LADY ANN HAPPENS TO BE MY ANCESTOR! I'M LINDA POLERA, THE NEW OWNER OF THIS CASTLE...

I'M YOUR NEIGHBOR ACROSS THE WAY! I'M SURE WE'RE GOING TO SEE A LOT OF EACH OTHER!

THE END

HARDENED KILLERS FELT THE CLAMMY HANDS OF FEAR, THE CHILL OF THE GRAVE WHEN THEIR VICTIM APPEARED TO CLAIM...

# the DEAD MAN'S HAND

DEAD, BUT NOT BURIED!

G-GET AWAY FROM ME! YOU'RE DEAD!

BY MORNING JIM REARDON LOST 50 GRAND IN A POKER GAME...

TOUGH LUCK, JIM!

BUT NICE FOR US!

I'M CLEANED OUT! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! IT'S NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE!

BUT AXEL, REARDON'S RIGHT-HAND MAN, HADN'T PLAYED! ...AND WHEN THE WINNERS LEFT...

THEY TOOK YOU, BOSS! I TRIED TO TIP YOU OFF BUT YOU WOULDN'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO ME!

MY PALS! THEY'LL PAY FOR THIS!

WHAT'LL YOU DO, BOSS?

KILL THEM, AXEL! AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT GETTING CAUGHT! NOBODY'LL SEE YOU! THEY'LL SEE DAN PATCH!

PATCH! BUT HE'S BEEN DEAD OVER A YEAR!

SURE, AXEL, SURE! AND A BEAUTIFUL JOB WE DID ON HIM! HA! HA! IT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES!

YES, OF A MAN NAMED PATCH TIRED OF LIVING OUTSIDE THE LAW, MADE A VISIT TO THE D.A.'S OFFICE!

THE BOYS WANT TO SEE YOU, DAN! ABOUT YOUR CHAT WITH TH' D.A.!

I'M NOT AFRAID OF THEM!

ISN'T THAT NICE? TELL US ABOUT IT!

NO... NO... YOU GUYS CAN'T DO THIS...

BUT DAN'S FORMER FRIENDS COULD... AND THEY DID!

DON'T... AGGH-H!

YOU SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT BEFORE YOU WENT TO THE D.A.!

BRUTALLY, THEY CUT AT HIS FLESH... UNTIL WHAT WAS LEFT BARELY LOOKED LIKE A MAN...

YOU DIDN'T THINK WE'D KILL YOU THE EASY WAY, DID YOU, DAN? THIS IS WHAT DOUBLE-CROSSERS GET!

THEN AS DEATH MERCIFULLY CAME TO DAN PATCH'S RESCUE...

Y-YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS... SOME DAY I'LL GET EVEN!

HA! HA! LISTEN TO HIM!

MEMORIES OF A BRUTAL MURDER CAME BACK TO PROD THE SCHEMING MIND OF JIM REARDON...

BUT I DON'T GET IT, BOSS! HOW DOES PATCH FIT IN NOW?

IT'S SIMPLE, AXEL! FRANKLIN AND BELLOWS PUT ONE OVER ON ME! YOU KNOW WHAT THEY THINK A DOUBLE-CROSSER DESERVES!

JUST KILLING 'EM IS TOO EASY! THEY'RE GOING TO TASTE TERROR FIRST... DAN PATCH IS GOING TO KILL 'EM!

PATCH? SURE, HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT REVENGE... HOW CAN YOU BRING PATCH BACK?

YOU'LL BE PATCH, AXEL! ON THE NIGHT OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF PATCHE'S DEATH! BELLOWS AND FRANKLIN WILL PLAY POKER WITH ME AGAIN! I'LL ARRANGE IT... AND AT THE RIGHT TIME YOU'LL COME IN MADE UP TO LOOK LIKE DAN PATCH!

HA! HA! IT'LL BE FUN TO SEE THEIR FACES!

REARDON THREW THE BAIT OF NEWLY ACQUIRED MONEY BEFORE BELLOWS AND FRANKLIN... THE PAIR INVITED HIM TO PLAY ON THE NIGHT REARDON HAD CHOSEN...

I'M GLAD YOU GOT YOURSELF A NEW STAKE, JIM!

I'M SURE YOU ARE, PAL...

AS THE GAME PROGRESSED...

FUNNY, US BEING HERE ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF DAN'S DEATH! HE USED TO LIKE A GOOD POKER GAME!

AH-H... FORGET THAT STOOLIE! HOW MANY CARDS?

AND AFTER MIDNIGHT...

SOMEBODY AT THE DOOR! YOU EXPECTING AXEL, JIM?

NO, AXEL'S HOME SICK! HIS ULCERS AGAIN!

PATCH! D-DAN PATCH!

N-NO... IT CAN'T BE!

CALMLY, THE TERRIFYING SPECTRE MOVED TOWARD THE TABLE!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, BOYS? AREN'T YOU HAPPY TO SEE YOUR OLD PAL? I THOUGHT I'D JOIN YOU IN A FRIENDLY GAME OF POKER!
THIS IS NUTS! CRAZY! --HE'S DEAD!
SURE I'M DEAD... BUT I CAME BACK! NOW LET'S PLAY!
YEAH, SURE, DAN ...SURE!
REMEMBER THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU, BELLOWS? REMEMBER WHAT I SAID?
WH--WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
SUDDENLY RELENTLESS FINGERS CLOSED AROUND BELLOW'S THROAT...
YOU'RE GOING TO DIE, BELLOWS...SLOWLY... PAINFULLY THE WAY I DIED!
JIM... LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
BUT INSTEAD, JIM REARDON MANAGED TO KEEP FRANKLIN IN THE ROOM...
NO...WAIT... MAYBE IT'S OUR IMAGINATION!
HE'S KILLING HIM ... AND THAT'S NOT MY IMAGINATION!
DIE LIKE I DIED! DIE... DIE...
WHEN REARDON PUSHED FRANKLIN INTO THE ARMS OF THE CADAVER...
AND YOU, FRANKLIN ARE NEXT!
JIM... WHAT ARE YOU DOING? NO! LET ME GO!
REARDON GRINNED AS FRANKLIN SCREAMED...
PAIN... AND MORE PAIN... AND FINALLY DEATH, FRANKLIN!
HOW DO YOU LIKE A DOUBLE-CROSSER'S DEATH, FRANKLIN!

And THEN, FRANKLIN TOO LAY DEAD...

NICE WORK, AXEL! IT WORKED JUST LIKE WE PLANNED!

AXEL? WHY DO YOU CALL ME AXEL, JIM?

REARDON FELT A STRANGE CHILL TRAVEL UP HIS SPINE...

BUT I AM NOT AXEL!

HA! HA! ALL RIGHT, AXEL, LET'S NOT CARRY THE GAG TOO FAR!

AND IT IS YOUR TURN TO DIE!

CUT IT OUT, AXEL! HAVE YOU GONE CRAZY? STOP!

BEFORE HE COULD GET OUT OF REACH, A HAND HAD CLOSED AROUND REARDON'S ARM...

HOW DO YOU LIKE A BROKEN ARM, JIM!

AXEL, FOR GOD'S SAKE... YOU'RE BREAKING MY ARM!

REARDON BROKE AWAY AND RAN FOR THE DOOR...

GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE...

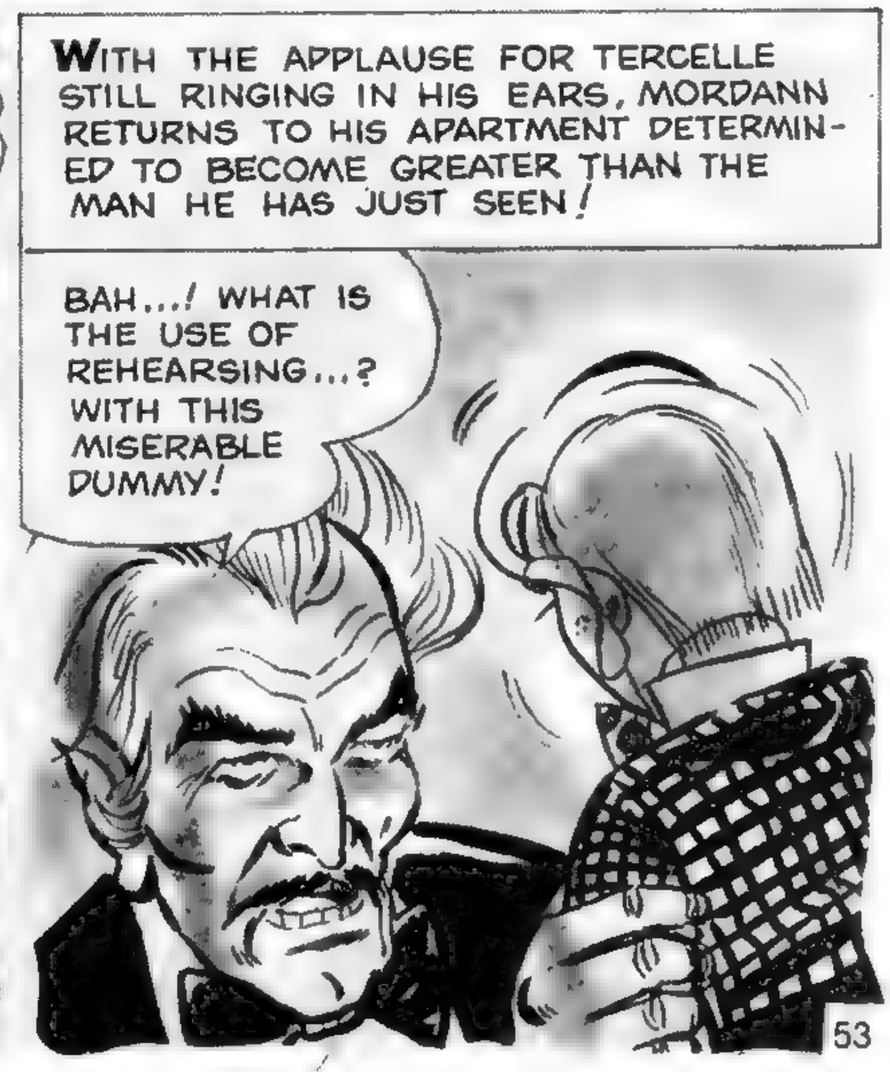
IT MUST BE AXEL... BUT SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO HIM... HE'S GONE CRAZY!

HARD AS HE TRIED TO CONVINCE HIMSELF THAT IT WAS AXEL, DOUBT MADE REARDON RETURN TO HIS APARTMENT TO MAKE SURE AXEL WAS NOT THERE...

HE'S DOUBLE-CROSSED ME, TOO! IT... IT COULDN'T BE ANYONE BUT AXEL! GHOSTS... REVENGE... NUTS!

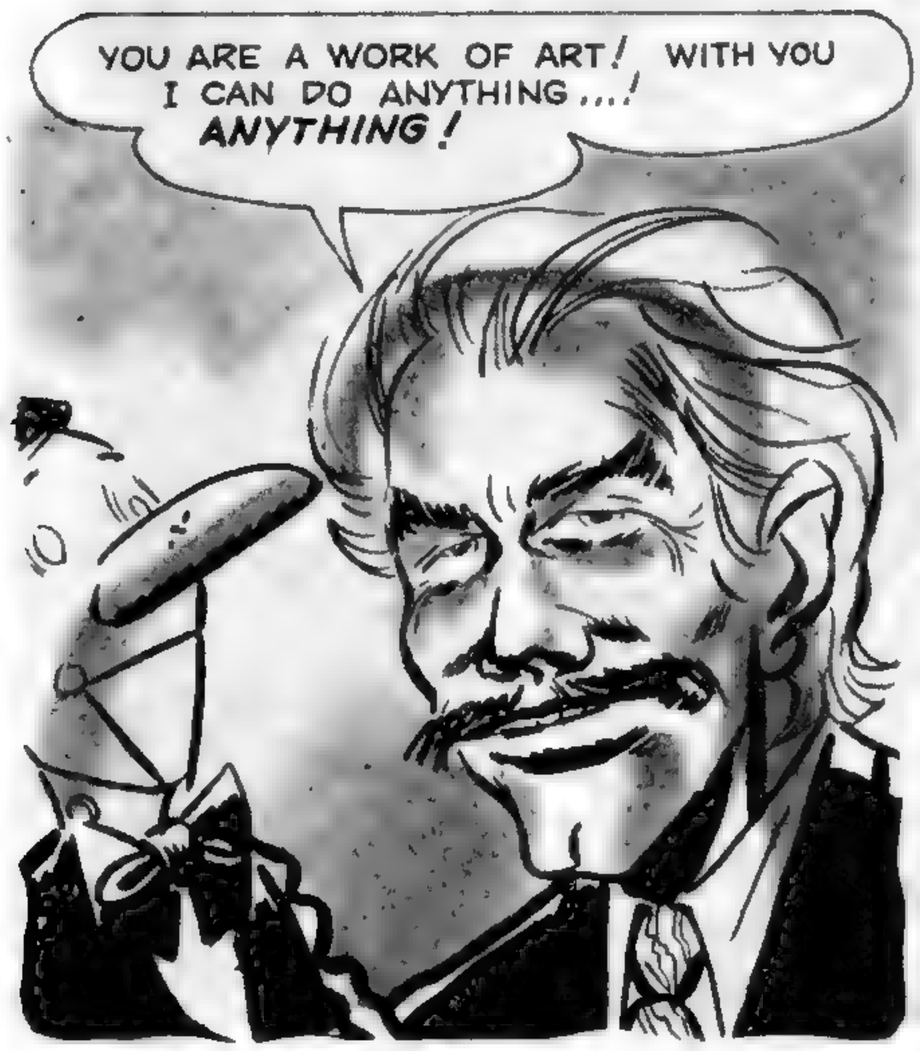
BUT WHEN REARDON CAME HOME...
AXEL! HE'S DEAD! THAT MEANS...
YES, IT MEANS THAT I HAVE RETURNED FROM THE GRAVE, JIM! ...TONIGHT WAS THE ANNIVERSARY OF MY DEATH! I WANTED TO CELEBRATE!
AND NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!
NO... NOT ME! NO!
PAIN AND AGONY FILLED JIM REARDON AS THE MAN FROM THE GRAVE LASHED OUT...
ARGGHHH!
MEANWHILE IN ANOTHER APARTMENT...
OFFICER! I'VE NEVER HEARD SUCH SCREAMS! FOR GOD'S SAKE, GET OVER HERE FAST!
WHEN THE POLICE ARRIVED, THEY FOUND ONLY THE BROKEN BODIES OF AXEL AND REARDON!
LIEUTENANT, HEADQUARTERS SAY TWO OTHER GUYS WERE FOUND KILLED THIS SAME WAY!
WHEW! BROTHER... THIS SOUNDS LIKE A TOUGH ONE!
A TOUGH ONE YES! MORTAL MAN HAS NO WAY OF DEALING WITH A NEMESIS FROM THE GRAVE!
the End

# HORROR in WOOD



I AM A GREAT ARTIST! BUT WITH YOU, I AM NOTHING!

THE NEXT DAY, MORDANN RETURNS TO THE THEATRE AND WATCHES RAPTLY AS TERCELLE PERFORMS! AFTER THE SHOW, HE SNEAKS BACKSTAGE...
NO ONE IS AROUND! I MUST LOOK AT HIM MORE CLOSELY!


YOU ARE A WORK OF ART! WITH YOU I CAN DO ANYTHING...! ANYTHING!

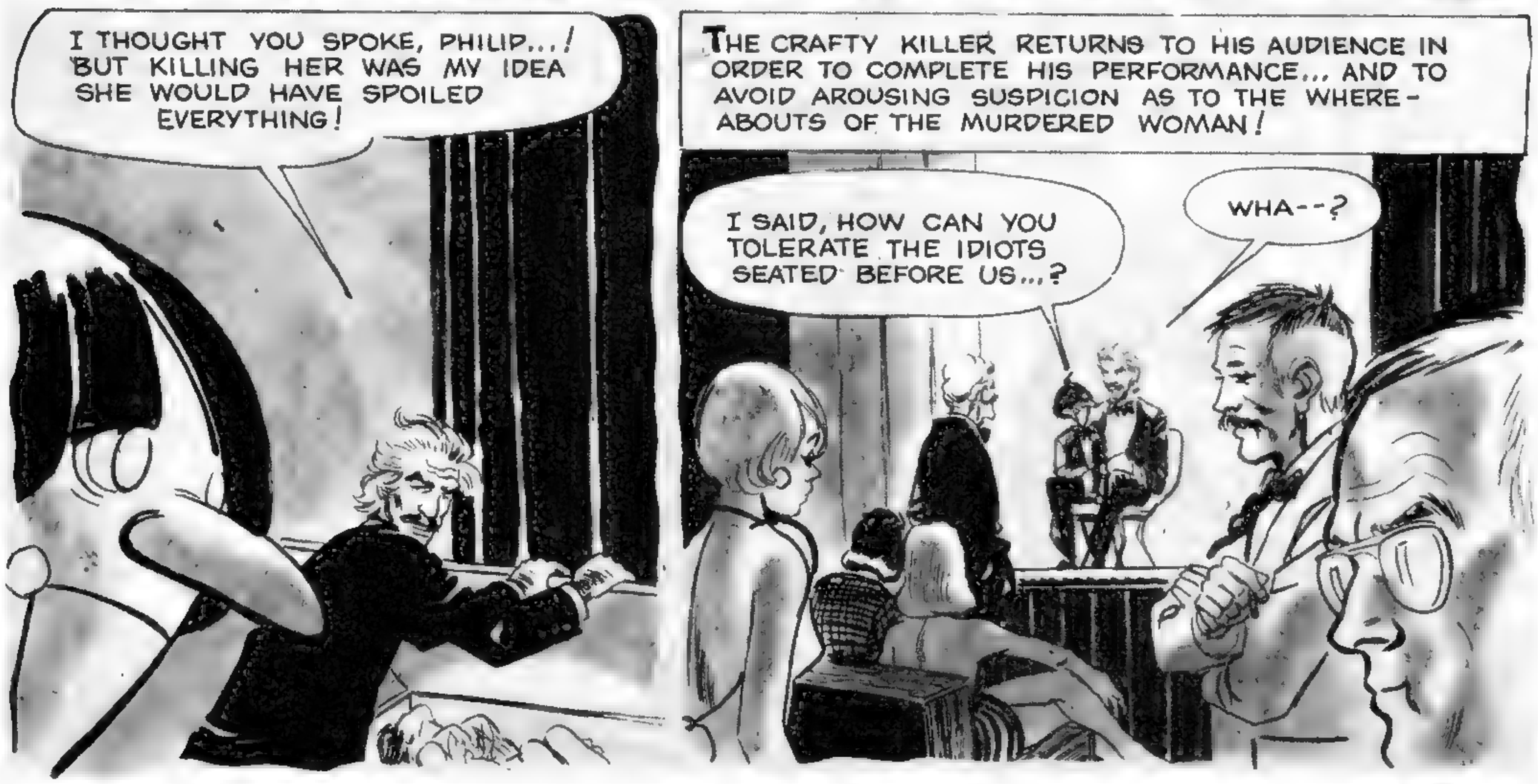
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? GIVE HIM TO ME! IMMEDIATELY!
NO..! I-I MUST HAVE HIM I MUST!
TERCELLE

YOU CANNOT HAVE HIM...! HE MUST BE MINE!
AAAAGGGRR!

YOU-- PERHAPS YOU'VE KILLED ME...! BUT... MY DUMMY... WILL REVENGE ME! HE WILL... REVENGE... ME...
HA-HA-HA...! NOW WE SHALL SEE WHO IS THE GREATEST VENTRILOQUIST IN THE WORLD!

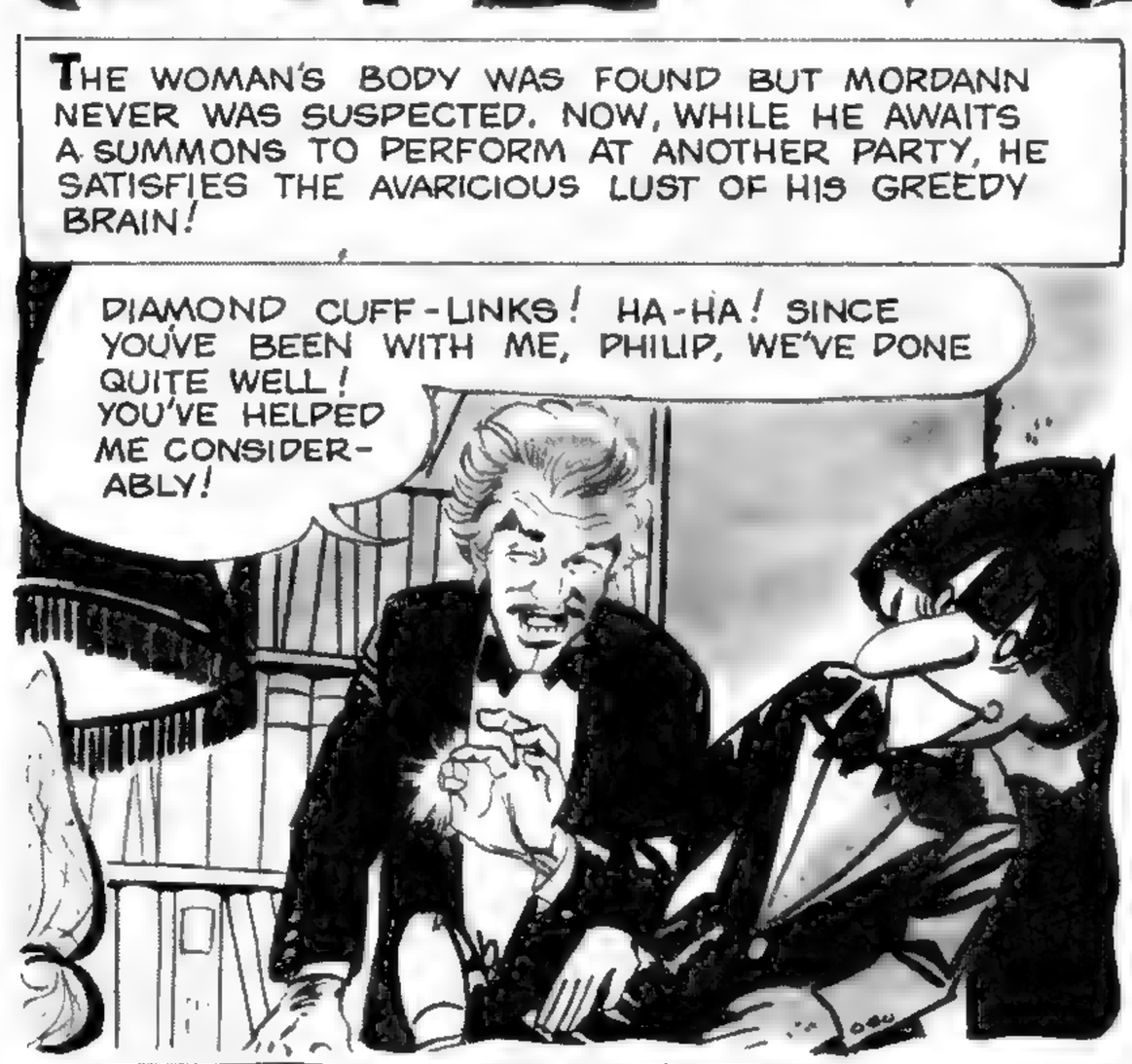
WITH TEREGELLE'S DUMMY, MORDANN SOON ESTABLISHES A REPUTATION AMONG THE SOCIETY ELEMENT OF THE CITY AND IS CALLED UPON TO ENTERTAIN AT MANY SOCIAL GATHERINGS!
HA-HA! THEY DO RECOGNIZE YOU, PHILIP, WITH YOUR NEW NAME AND NEW HAIR! THEY WERE ENTHRALLED WITH OUR PERFORMANCE!
BUT WE MUST NOT BE CONTENT WITH THESE SMALL PERFORMANCES! THE WHOLE WORLD MUST SEE US! AND FOR THAT WE SHALL NEED MORE MONEY...!

WE WILL ONLY TAKE THE RING PHILIP! IT WON'T BE MISSED!
MR. MORDANN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING...!
KILL HER...! KILL HER...!
WHAT--! YES... YOU'RE RIGHT! SHE MUST BE KILLED! NO ONE CAN STAND IN OUR WAY...!
AAAGGRR!


I THOUGHT YOU SPOKE, PHILIP...! BUT KILLING HER WAS MY IDEA SHE WOULD HAVE SPOILED EVERYTHING!
THE CRAFTY KILLER RETURNS TO HIS AUDIENCE IN ORDER TO COMPLETE HIS PERFORMANCE... AND TO AVOID AROUSING SUSPICION AS TO THE WHERE-ABOUTS OF THE MURDERED WOMAN!
I SAID, HOW CAN YOU TOLERATE THE IDIOTS SEATED BEFORE US...?
WHA--?

ISN'T HE AMAZING! IT'S ALMOST AS IF THE DUMMY WERE ALIVE!
DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?

RETURNING TO HIS ROOM AFTER THE TRIUMPHANT PERFORMANCE, A SHAKEN MORDANN CONFRONT THE GRINNING, PAINTED LIMP DUMMY!
YOU... YOU DIDN'T SPEAK...! DID YOU! BUT WE MADE THEM THINK YOU DID...! DIDN'T WE? YOU DON'T ANSWER...! HA-HA-HA! OF COURSE NOT! YOU CAN'T


THE WOMAN'S BODY WAS FOUND BUT MORDANN NEVER WAS SUSPECTED. NOW, WHILE HE AWAITS A SUMMONS TO PERFORM AT ANOTHER PARTY, HE SATISFIES THE AVARICIOUS LUST OF HIS GREEDY BRAIN!
DIAMOND CUFF-LINKS! HA-HA! SINCE YOU'VE BEEN WITH ME, PHILIP, WE'VE DONE QUITE WELL! YOU'VE HELPED ME CONSIDERABLY!

WHAT...?
KILL HER... SHE WILL GIVE US AWAY!
YES...! I MUST KILL HER...!

AAAGGRRR...!
YOU'LL NEVER TELL ANYONE OF WHAT YOU'VE SEEN...!

YOU SPOKE PHILIP...! YOU-YOU TOLD ME TO KILL HER...! NO...NO! THAT'S MAD! IT WAS MY IMAGINATION!

LATER, MORDANN RUSHES OUT TO MEET HIS AUDIENCE...

SAY "GOOD EVENING" TO THESE LOVELY PEOPLE PHILIP...!

I'LL SAY NOTHING OF THE KIND TO THESE FOOLS!

HOW DARE HE!

I-I THINK YOU SHOULD APOLOGIZE, PHILIP...!

GO TO THE DEVIL!

THAT'S JUST PART OF HIS ACT! I THINK HE'S QUITE DIVERTING ...AND DIFFERENT!

MORDANN, BAFFLED AND TERRORSTRICKEN, MANAGES TO BRING HIS ACT TO A CONCLUSION... THEN, IN THE PRIVACY OF HIS ROOM, MORDANN RAGES AT THE LIFELESS DOLL!

DID YOU SPEAK...! TELL ME... *TELL ME!*

YOU ARE NOTHING BUT PAINTED WOOD AND SAWDUST! IT WAS MY IMAGINATION...! THE WORDS I PUT INTO YOUR MOUTH...!

REMEMBER... I CAN KILL YOU AS I DID, TERCELLE... AND THE OTHERS! NOTHING WILL STAND IN MY WAY...! NOTHING!

THE FOLLOWING MONTHS, HOWEVER, FIND MORDANN GROWING IN POPULARITY AND STATURE...

I AM A SUCCESS, MY STUPID LITTLE DUMMY...! NO LONGER DOES MY IMAGINATION PLAY TRICKS ON ME!

IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO PRESENT THE FABULOUS PETER MORDANN... AND PHILIP!

I-I CAN'T SPEAK...!

HA-HA! CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?

I-I'M RUINED...!

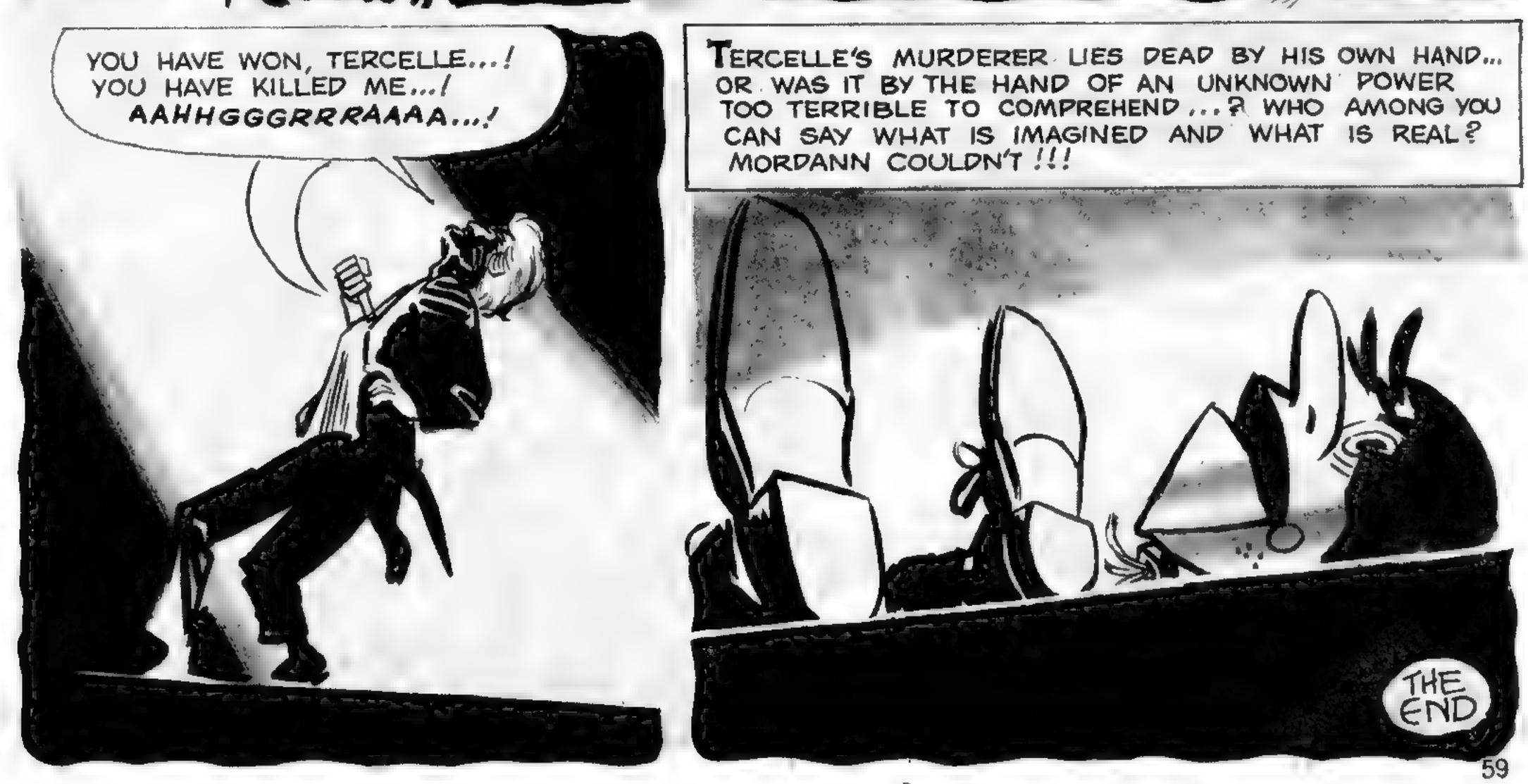
THE CRAZED MORDANN LURCHES HYSTERICALLY TO HIS ROOM, AND ONCE THERE TURNS HIS FEAR-RIDDLE, INSANE RAGE UPON THE LIFELESS DUMMY!!

I'M RUINED...! THE WORDS STUCK IN MY THROAT...! I COULDN'T SPEAK!

YOU FOOL! YOU HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT! I DIDN'T SPEAK!

NO! NO ...! YOU CAN'T BE...!
YOU ARE FINISHED MORDANN ...HA-HA-HA...!

NO! NO! I'LL KILL YOU... KILL YOU... JUST AS I DID TERCELLE...!
THERE IS NOTHING LEFT FOR YOU, MORDANN, BUT DEATH! GET THE KNIFE FROM THE DESK...!
DEATH...? THE KNIFE...? HE-HE-HAAAA...!


YOU HAVE WON, TERCELLE...! YOU HAVE KILLED ME...! AAHHGGGRRRAAAA...!
TERCELLE'S MURDERER LIES DEAD BY HIS OWN HAND... OR WAS IT BY THE HAND OF AN UNKNOWN POWER TOO TERRIBLE TO COMPREHEND...? WHO AMONG YOU CAN SAY WHAT IS IMAGINED AND WHAT IS REAL? MORDANN COULDN'T !!!
THE END

# the Devil's Looking Glass

BENEATH THE FLAP OF THE SECRET COMPARTMENT WAS A STRANGE MESSAGE!
THIS WRITING IS IN REVERSE! I'LL HAVE TO HOLD IT TO A MIRROR TO READ IT!
SPELL LIVED BACKWARD... D-E-V-I-L!!!
WHY, THAT SPELLS DEVIL!

CORRECT, MR. DANA! I AM AT YOUR SERVICE! STEP INTO THE MIRROR AND HEAR MY SIDE OF THE STORY!
WHY, THIS MUST BE MALVERN HALL AS IT WAS A CENTURY AGO!
EXACTLY! HERE IS OLD TOBIAS MALVERN! HE'S BEEN HOPING SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS WOULD STEP IN TO SEE HIM...
COME! I'LL SHOW YOU WHERE I'LL BURY MY TREASURE WHILE YOU MAKE A MAP OF IT!
GREAT! ...AN' THEN I CAN TAKE IT BACK TO MY OWN TIME!

THE TREASURE WILL BE HERE! BUT EVEN MORE VALUABLE IS THE FORMULA FOR THE GLASS IN MEPHISTO'S OWN MIRROR! THE DEVIL HIMSELF GAVE IT TO ME, BUT IN RETURN, I HAVE TO LIVE MY LIFE OVER AND OVER IN THIS MIRROR WORLD!
GIVE ME THE FORMULA! I'LL PRESERVE IT FOR POSTERITY!
YOU CAN NOT LEAVE!
YOU CAN'T HOLD HIM HERE, MEPHISTO, BECAUSE YOU INVITED HIM THROUGH THE MIRROR!

IT WAS ALL IN OUR PACT-- REMEMBER?
YES! I DID GIVE YOU THE BETTER OF THE BARGAIN, EXCEPT WHERE YOU ARE PERSONALLY CONCERNED, AT LEAST YOU CAN NEVER LEAVE!
BUT, I CAN! SO LONG!
BACK IN THE WORLD OF TODAY, DANA LEFT THE ATTIC AND WENT TO THE RUINS OF OLD MALVERN HALL!
IF I START DIGGING UP THIS RUBBLE, SOMEBODY WILL TIP OFF THE OTHER MALVERN HEIRS! THE DEVIL TAKE THEM! SAY-- THAT'S AN IDEA! THE FORMULA!
ETCHED IN DANA'S EVIL MIND WERE THE DETAILS OF THE PACT BETWEEN MEPHISTO AND TOBIAS MALVERN! HE SAW A WAY TO SCARE THE MALVERNS...
ALL RIGHT, MR. DANA! BUT I'M SURE YOUR FORMULA CONTAINS TOO MUCH SULPHUR AND BRIMSTONE!
I'LL TAKE THE RISK IF THE MIRRORS DON'T TURN OUT RIGHT!

DANA FOLLOWED THROUGH WITH A DIABOLICAL SCHEME...
THE DEVIL'S OWN FORMULA! I'LL COME AROUND IN THE MORNING AND SEE HOW I MADE OUT!
CLICK!
FORGY WAS OVERWHELMED BY THE FUMES... HE COULD NOT ESCAPE!!
I'M... I'M CHOKING!
HELP! HELP! LET ME OUT... GASP
BANG
NEXT DAY...
POOR FORGY! SHERIFF, HE MUST HAVE USED THE WRONG FORMULA AND WAS OVERCOME BY THE FUMES! BUT I'LL STILL BUY THE MIRRORS!
THAT'S MIGHTY FINE OF YOU, MR. DANA!
SO DANA OBTAINED MEPHISTO'S MIRRORS AND PROCEEDED WITH THE NEXT STAGE OF HIS FIENDISH PLAN!
EASY... THOSE CRATES ARE FULL OF MIRRORS!
NOW TO SEND PASSES TO ALL THE MALVERN HEIRS IN THE TOWNS WE PLAY!

YES, DANA KNEW HIS RELATIVES ALL THE MALVERNS WOULDN'T MISS ANYTHING THEY COULD GET FREE!

HA! HERE'S A PAIR OF MALVERNS NOW!

YES, COUSIN CARRIE, THESE PASSES THAT SOMEBODY SENT US ARE GOOD FOR EVERY AMUSEMENT!

LET'S GO THROUGH THE MIRROR MAZE!

ONCE INSIDE...

YIKES! LOOK!

CARRIE -- HELP ME! I SEE THE DEVIL... HE MUST BE AFTER ME! LET ME OUT OF HERE!

WHY, HUBERT-- YOU'RE GOING RIGHT THROUGH THAT MIRROR!

I'M TRAPPED! HELP ME! CARRIE... ANYBODY!

WHY-- I'VE GONE RIGHT THROUGH A MIRROR, TOO!

AH, ANOTHER DESCENDANT! WELCOME!

PARDON, SIR, BUT I'M LOOKING FOR MR. HUBERT MALVERN AND HIS COUSIN, CARRIE! PERHAPS THEY LOST THEIR WAY IN THE MAZE!

IF THEY DID, YOU'LL SEE THEM AS SOON AS THE MIRRORS ARE PACKED!

I MUST HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN! THEY COULDN'T HAVE GONE INTO THE MAZE!

I KNEW IT WOULD WORK! WHEN THE DEVIL SCARED THEM FROM ONE MIRROR, THEY RECOILED THROUGH ANOTHER! I'M SMARTER THAN MEPHISTO, TO THINK OF **SURROUNDING** MALVERNS WITH HIS MIRRORS!

And SO, THE PARADE CONTINUED IN EVERY TOWN...

IS THIS PASS GOOD HERE?

CERTAINLY, MY FRIEND! STEP INSIDE!

HA HA HA

HA! YOU'D THINK THE DEVIL HIMSELF WAS IN THERE!

BUT, AS THE MALVERNS DWINDLED, SO DID THE GATE RECEIPTS...

HEY, BOYS, HOW ABOUT THE MIRROR MAZE?

EEEK

YEAH-- WITH OTHER PEOPLE'S FACES LOOKING FROM THE MIRRORS AND SCREAMING!

NOT A CHANCE! IT'S SPOOKY!

WHAT IF PEOPLE DO SEE THOSE FACES? NOBODY IS GOING TO HELP THEM EXCEPT ANOTHER MALVERN, AND ALL THE MALVERNS CAN SEE IS THE DEVIL! HA! HA!

JUST ONE MORE--GEORGE LAYTON--AND I'LL DISPOSE OF HIM IN THIS TOWN, THEN I CAN GET RID OF THOSE MIRRORS AND DIG UP THE FORTUNE ALL FOR MYSELF!

THAT'S LAYTON, ALL RIGHT! HE'S THE ONLY PERSON THAT RECEIVED A PASS! I'LL BREAK UP THOSE MIRRORS AFTER THE DEVIL TAKES LAYTON!

YES, DANA HAD IT FIGURED, OR SO HE THOUGHT! BUT FOR SOME STRANGE REASON, LAYTON DIDN'T SEE MEPHISTO IN THOSE MIRRORS!
HELP! PLEASE HELP!
TAKE MY HAND!
MALVERNS!
GET US OUT!
ALL LAYTON SAW WERE FACES OF MALVERN HEIRS! THEY DID NOT SCARE HIM AWAY--AS THEY DID OTHER PEOPLE...
WHY--WHY GEORGE LAYTON! OH THANK YOU!
GIVE ME YOUR HAND!
HERE YOU COME, HUBERT! BUT HOW DID YOU GET IN THERE?
IT'S A LONG STORY! WE'LL TELL YOU AFTER WE SETTLE WITH THE FELLOW WHO TALKED US INTO IT!
AND STILL THEY COME!
WE WANT RALPH DANA WHO RUNS THIS MIRROR MAZE!
COME RIGHT ALONG- AND ALL HOLD HANDS SO YOU WON'T GO THROUGH ANY MORE MIRRORS!
IT'S LAYTON--AND HE'S RELEASED THE REST OF THEM! I BETTER GET OUT OF HERE!
EXIT
THERE HE IS!
30
MY ONLY WAY OUT IS THROUGH THE MIRROR MAZE! BUT I'LL HAVE TO CHANCE IT!
LET HIM GO! THAT'S ONE PLACE WHERE YOU CAN'T FOLLOW HIM!

YOU CAN'T FOOL ME! NOT IN MY OWN MIRROR MAZE! I'LL FIND A WAY OUT!
WELCOME HOME, GREAT-GRAND-NEPHEW! NOW YOU CAN SPEND THE REST OF ETERNITY HELPING ME BURY TREASURE FOR OTHERS TO DIG UP!
THIS TIME THERE WAS NO INVITATION!
THIS EXPLAINS THINGS! DANA HAD A MAP SHOWING WHERE THE TREASURE IS! THAT'S WHY HE WANTED TO GET RID OF US!
IT DOESN'T EXPLAIN EVERYTHING, GEORGE!
IF ALL THE REST OF US SAW THE DEVIL IN THOSE MIRRORS, WHY DIDN'T YOU?
BECAUSE I'M NOT A MALVERN!
MY CLAIMS ON THE ESTATE COMES THROUGH MY STEP-FATHER, SO ALL I SAW WERE YOUR FACES... NOT MEPHISTO'S! LET'S DIG UP OUR FORTUNE!
IT LOOKS LIKE ENOUGH FOR ALL! TOO BAD RALPH DIDN'T STAY TO SHARE IT!
THEY'RE SELLING DANA'S CARNIVAL! WHY DON'T WE BUY UP THOSE BIG MIRRORS AND CUT THEM INTO LITTLE ONES! WE'D SHOW A FANCY PROFIT THAT WAY!
A GOOD IDEA!
HELP!
AND SO, TODAY, IN ANY OF A FEW THOUSAND MIRRORS, YOU ARE APT TO CATCH A FLEETING GLIMPSE OF A HAUNTED FACE... RALPH DANA'S!!!
THE END

MONSTER TRANSPLANT KIT
DIRECTIONS